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Military Governor Of Cyrenaica Appointed

NEW POINT OF ATTACK IN ERITREA

The British occupation of Mersa Taclai and Korara in Eritrea was announced in a Middle East General Headquarters communique.

Meanwhile pressure on enemy positions about Keren is being continued.

South African troops have now advanced 50 miles inside Italian territory in Southern Abyssinia in the Hobok area.

The communique adds that the clearing up of areas up to El Agheila in Libya is proceeding satisfactorily and that intensive activity in Italian Somaliland continues. — Reuter.

On The Sea Coast

MERSA TACLAI, WHICH HAS BEEN OCCUPIED BY BRITISH FORCES, IS A VILLAGE ON THE RED SEA COAST, FORTY MILES FROM THE BORDER BETWEEN THE SUDAN AND ERITREA. KARARA, A SMALL TOWN, LIES INSIDE THE ERITREAN BORDER FORTY MILES INLAND.

It is pointed out in London that this advance into Eritrea from the North would appear to constitute a new movement as yesterday's communique was the first to mention any movement in this direction. — Reuter.

SIR MAITLAND WILSON TAKES CONTROL

IT IS OFFICIALLY announced in Cairo that Lieut.-General Sir Maitland Wilson has taken over the command of Cyrenaica, as Military Governor and General Officer Commanding in Chief.

General Wilson has issued a proclamation calling on the population for discipline and to obey the orders of the military authorities.

ITALIANS DENY ATTACK

IN REPLY TO THE UNITED STATES' PROTEST AGAINST THE BOMBING OF THE AMERICAN MISSION IN THE ANGLO-EGYPTIAN SUDAN LAST AUGUST, THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS DENIED THAT THE ATTACK WAS MADE BY ITALIAN PLANES. IT WAS ANNOUNCED IN WASHINGTON LAST NIGHT.

It declares that, according to a report received by the Italian East African High Command, "the bombardment of the Mission, as broadcast by the British, is insofar as we are concerned, unfounded." — Reuter.

A political branch has been set up in Cairo at General Headquarters to deal with all questions affecting occupied enemy territory and its administration.

The appointment of General Wilson and the creation of a political branch of G.H.Q. means that the establishment of an administration for occupied territory is in accordance with International Law.

It is pointed out in Cairo that the military occupation has no bearing on subsequent disposal of the territory or rectification of frontiers which are matters to be decided at the peace conference.

Command Relinquished

To take over his new appointment, General Wilson has relinquished command of the British troops in Egypt.

His successor is likely to be announced in a few days. Under General Wavell, General Wilson has taken an active part in the British drive into Libya. — Reuter.

Heavy Albania Fighting

Another Italian counter-attack against newly won positions in the Klissura area has been driven back with heavy losses to the Italians, according to the Greek press, reporting a military statement broadcast by Athens yesterday.

The statement says: "Like previous attempts, this attack was completely smashed and the Italians beaten back in great disorder."

It adds: "The situation on the Albanian front continues to be highly satisfactory. Further vantage points have been secured by Greek forces particularly on the Central front." — Reuter.

Four Attempts

Four Italian counter-attacks have been repulsed in the last twenty-four hours.

Reports from Athens reaching London state that two of these counter-attacks took place west of the River Drin where Italian infantry had been ordered to penetrate the Greek lines but failed owing to the violent Greek fire, leaving behind many dead and wounded.

Another of the counter-attacks was attempted in the region of the Klissura sector. — Reuter.

FRANCO, SUNER IN ITALY

According to reports received from Spain in London last night, General Franco and Senor Serrano Suner, the Spanish Foreign Minister, are to meet Herr Hitler and von Ribbentrop.

A message received in New York from Rome states that General Franco and Senor Suner arrived yesterday at San Remo, in Italy. — Reuter.

FIREWOOD PRICE CONTROL?

The retail price of firewood soared to a new record height this morning when only 22 cabbages could be obtained for one dollar.

Government, the "China Mail" was given to understand this morning, is about to adopt effective measures to remedy the situation.

Wholesale and retail prices of this everyday necessity may be fixed by Government within the next few days.

R.A.F. FORMATIONS SWEEP THE INVASION PORTS

TWO FORMATIONS of R.A.F. bombers accompanied by a strong force of fighters carried out an offensive sweep over Dunkirk and Boulogne yesterday. Bombs were dropped on docks at Dunkirk.

According to an early report, two enemy fighters were destroyed by one British squadron.

The R.A.F. air raids on Calais docks proved even more successful and bombs were showered on many parts of the harbour according to later official details.

The pilot of one aircraft said he watched bombs explode and saw bursts of shipping clear out of the water, while other pilots said they saw the bottoms of some small craft as they overturned and fell back completely wrecked.

A direct hit was obtained on a

goods train on a railway near the docks. — Reuter.

One Fighter Lost

Only one British fighter is missing from the aircraft which participated in the offensive sweeps over northern France yesterday. This was revealed by an Air Ministry communique dealing with the operations, which says that though the fullest reports are not yet available it is known that two enemy fighters were destroyed. — Reuter.

PREMIER SURPRISES BERLIN

Mr. Churchill's reference to Bulgaria on Sunday has caused a sensation in Berlin, according to the Berlin correspondent of the newspaper "Nya Dagligt Allehanda."

Competent quarters in Berlin, the correspondent says, deny that German troops have entered Bulgarian territory.

The Berlin correspondent of the newspaper "Aftonbladet" says that German authorities maintain there is not a single German soldier or airman in Bulgaria. — Reuter.

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DEFENCE OF BRITAIN

Preparation For Defence Against Gas Attacks



WHEN THE GUARDS ARE ON PARADE—The Coldstream Guards in their battledress, but there is no mistaking the traditional smartness. (Copyright, Fox).

Possibility Of Secret Weapon

PREPARATIONS FOR THE DEFENCE OF BRITAIN AGAINST INVASION TAKE FULL ACCOUNT OF THE POSSIBLE USE OF GAS BY THE GERMAN ARMY AND AIR FORCE AND STEPS ARE TO BE TAKEN TO COUNTERACT THE ATTACK WHICH WOULD COME CHIEFLY FROM THE SKIES AND SEAS.

Britain has pledged herself under the Geneva Protocol of 1925 not to use gas unless this is first inflicted on her in war.

Thus the initiative in its use must remain with Germany who introduced this weapon in the last war.

Germany also pledged herself not to use it again but may follow the example of her Axis partner, Italy, in the conquest of Abyssinia.

The Germans are not believed to possess any new gas.

Indeed, scientists consider no new gas which can be used in chemical warfare exists. What would be new would be some hitherto unforeseen method of using this weapon.

Wholesale use of gas to terrorise the civilian population is hardly likely for this is a weapon which recoils on the user like a boomerang.

Safety Of Masks

Complete safety against all poison gases is provided by the service gas-mask and the civilian gas-mask, the only difference between the two being that the former is designed to stand up to field conditions.

Also statistics show that even in the last war the percentage of fatal casualties and permanent disabilities from gas was lower than from any other cause.—Reuter.

ST. SOPHIA CATHEDRAL BOMBED

A message from Athens reports that the fifth-century Cathedral of Saint Sophia at Salonika was damaged by an air-raid on Sunday.

The Cathedral is to be repaired immediately, following orders issued by the Greek Prime Minister, M. Korizis.

One part of the building has almost entirely collapsed but the mosaics of the cupola have not suffered much.

The British Consul at Salonika was present when crowds massed around the Cathedral after the all-clear signal had been given and demonstrated against this "act of vandalism."—Reuter.

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VICHY CABINET RE-SHUFFLE

According to a despatch from Vichy to the official German news agency quoting well-informed circles, a complete reshuffle of the Vichy Cabinet will not take place before the middle of the week.—Reuter.

EX-SOVIET ARMY CHIEF FOUND SHOT DEAD

General Krivitsky, who has been found shot dead in Washington is stated to have been once Chief of the Secret Police in Soviet Russia, according to Mr. Louis Waldman, an attorney.

The general is said to have been going under the name of Samuel Ginsberg.

Mr. Waldman said he had obtained this information from detectives who told him General Krivitsky shot himself, but the attorney did not believe this.

General Krivitsky, he said, had been cooperating with the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation.

He came to the United States several years ago and later visited England but returned to America last October.

General Krivitsky gave evidence in October 1939, before the Congressional Committee on un-American activities.

On that occasion Krivitsky had said that he had broken with Stalin because he had refused to take active part in the purge in the Communist Party during 1936/37.—Reuter.

GREEK REJOICING

MR. CHURCHILL'S SPEECH FOLLOWING GREAT BRITAIN'S SUCCESS AT BENGHAZI AND AT GENOA, HAS SENT A WAVE OF ENCOURAGEMENT THROUGHOUT GREECE, SAYS A MESSAGE FROM ATHENS.

The Greek newspaper "Estia" says "the speech contained important facts, disclosing a most hopeful situation in the Mediterranean."

"Mr. Churchill's disdainful words about Mussolini are echoed by tens of millions of free men and will be repeated even in Italy."—Reuter.

FROZEN ASSETS IN AMERICA

Foreign assets valued at 4,369,000,000 U.S. dollars are "frozen" in the United States, according to the U.S. Treasury estimate.

These assets belong to countries which are completely or partially occupied by Germany, with the exception of 20,000,000 dollars, belonging to Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, which are now incorporated in the Soviet Union.

Figures given for other countries are: France, U.S.\$1,593,000,000, the Netherlands U.S.\$1,619,000,000, Denmark U.S.\$92,000,000, Norway U.S.\$175,000,000, Belgium U.S.\$760,000,000, Luxembourg U.S.\$48,000,000 and Rumania U.S.\$53,000,000.—Reuter.

QUIET TRADING ON STOCK MARKET

A general strength in gilt-edged securities and Indian irredeemable stocks on the mobilisation of Indian dated issues provided the feature of to-day's market on the London Stock Exchange.

Elsewhere, the market was quiet, the early buoyance following Mr. Churchill's broadcast being mostly not fully maintained owing to the quietness of trading.

Industrial issues were narrowly irregular and home-rails attracted small buying, while among foreign bonds, Belgian and Japanese issues improved. Wall Street was firm.—Reuter.

IMPLACABLE WILL OF BRITISH EMPIRE TO VICTORY

MR. CHURCHILL'S speech had a world audience and the American press response is unanimous in hailing it as Britain's implacable will to victory.

The New York "Herald-Tribune" says that the speech carried with it a new hint of offensive power. Was it conceivable that America could refuse to supply machinery, ships, aeroplanes, guns and tanks which would give victory that would make them masters, and not cringing victims, of Hitler. It was not conceivable.

The "Washington Post" said that the speech united England and the Commonwealth as no Prime Minister had been able to before in a single speech. Mr. Churchill's voice over the radio ran the gamut of every mood except despair.

The "North Carolina Morning Herald" said that the speech was without vainglory and yet full of pride. "It will long be remembered."

Americans throughout the country heard the speech which went far to allay the fears of people in the United States concerning involvement in the war by the Lease and Lend Bill.

The "New York Times" says, "We in America need not fear that the final plea will go unanswered. Americans will put their confidence in Mr. Churchill and his countrymen and will equip them with the tools, as he said, to finish the job."

Mr. Sol Bloom, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the House of Representatives, said, "It was a superb message and a complete assertion that democracy is still more than a match for the dictators."

Magnificent

Senator Carter Glass said, "It was magnificent. It was a darned sight better speech than anyone in the Senate would be able to make against the Lease and Lend Bill."

Mr. Albert Warner, commentator of the Columbia Radio network, said, "It was a moving appeal that Mr. Churchill made to the United States. It was characterised by confidence and sober determination and by great restraint. It has brought a new prestige here."

The German broadcast fastened on to Mr. Churchill's reference to the four squares at Waterloo as an excuse for more praising of the valour of German soldiers in that battle.

Well Doctored

The Italians had the speech well doctored and the only sentence which was published was "the events in Libya are only part of the story." But what Mr. Churchill really said was "the events in Libya are only part of the story of the decline and fall of the Roman Empire."

The Sofia Radio devoted eight minutes to the speech but omitted all references to Bulgaria.

An American correspondent from Ankara writes that so called Nazi tourists in civilian clothes are increasing every day in Bulgaria. On the Rumanian side of the Danube pontoon bridging equipment is now openly exposed.

Inspired denials have been put forth in Sofia of Mr. Churchill's statement that German troops are already moving in Bulgaria.

New Zealand's Congratulations

"Our thoughts and prayers are with you always," cabled Mr. Fraser, Premier of New Zealand, sending his heartiest congratulations yesterday to

DEATH SENTENCE QUASHED

Mr. Dorothy Pamela O'Grady, who was previously sentenced to death on charges under the Treachery Act yesterday, heard Lord Caldecote, in the Court of Appeal, announce that conviction quashed but, on other charges, sentence of 14 years' penal servitude was imposed.

Both the trial at Winchester and the appeal were held in camera.—Reuter.

N-Z'S WAR WORK

The manufacture of munitions has become an important part of New Zealand's war work, said Mr. Sullivan, New Zealand Minister of Supplies yesterday.

Production covers Bren-Gun carriers, trench-mortars and bombs, including high explosives, steel-helmets and small arms munition.

Minesweepers are being built and an improved type will soon be produced.

After the report of British experts, it is expected that Britain would establish programmes suitable for New Zealand's fulfilment.

The New Zealand Government is conducting an intensive operations scheme for the training of munition workers.—Reuter.

Mr. Winston Churchill on his "splendid address."

"Its inspiring and heartening character will strengthen the will, fire and spirit of all British peoples throughout the world in the determination to complete the task to which they have set their hand," cabled Mr. Fraser.

Mr. Fraser also cabled congratulations to General Wavell from the Government and people of New Zealand on the capture of Benghazi.—Reuter.

PILOTS ARRIVING AT RIGHT MOMENT

The latest contingent of air-crews and pilots from the Dominions to arrive in Britain under the Empire air training scheme was welcomed yesterday by Lord Cranborne, Secretary of State for the Dominions.

Lord Cranborne said he could imagine nothing more exasperating or discouraging to Hitler and his collaborators than see "this increasing and inexorable wave of the finest pilots in the world coming steadily across the Atlantic, not only to defend this Island but to strike continued increasing blows at vital parts of Germany."

Lord Cranborne observed that they came at a right moment as, by all appearances, the Spring campaign was nearly upon us.—Reuter.

VICHY'S NATIONAL COUNCIL

The new French consultative body, the National Council, will, according to "Noeuvelliste de Lysen," meet for its inaugural session at Lyons, but will later continue its work at Vichy where it will be in closer touch with the different ministries.

The newspaper understands that at the first meeting, Councillors will agree on the list of names to be submitted to the head of the State with a view to the establishment of a Bureau for the Assembly.

The list will be immediately communicated.—Reuter.

3,350,000 PENSIONERS

Old age pensioners in England, Wales and Scotland, including widows over sixty, total approximately 3,350,000, according to the Minister of Health.

At the beginning of the supplementary pensions scheme about 1,400,000 applications (in some cases covering husbands and wives) were received, on which 1,200,000 pensioners are receiving assistance.

Fresh or repeat applications are being received at the rate of about 14,000 per week, of which about 8,500 supplementary pensions are granted the remainder being rejected or withdrawn.

TRADE MISSION LEAVING COLOMBIA

Members of the British Trade Mission to South America are leaving Bogota, Colombia, to-day after a most successful five-day visit.

There have been unrestrained demonstrations of sympathy for the cause of the British Empire.—Reuter.



The Lord Mayor of London recently paid a visit to the East End of London where he was met and escorted around the jammed areas by the Mayors of the districts. Photo shows the Lord Mayor (left) chatting to the children of the district. —(Copyright, Fox.)

STOCKHOLM AND NAZI MOVE IN BALKANS

Mr. Churchill's speech was printed in full in the Stockholm newspapers. Headlines were specially emphasising with reference to the Bulgarian aerodromes being occupied by German ground personnel.—Reuter.

ROYAL NAVY PARALYSING ITALIANS

According to the naval correspondent of the Swedish paper "Stockholm Tidningen," the British fleet is the foremost cause in the apparent paralysis of Italy.

The correspondent declares that it is not known whether the Italian Fleet and Air Force have taken measures to deal with attacks like that on Genoa. But it is given that one cause of impression of the paralysis gained during the last three months is probably the shortage of fuel and the foremost cause is the evidence of the British Fleet.—Reuter.

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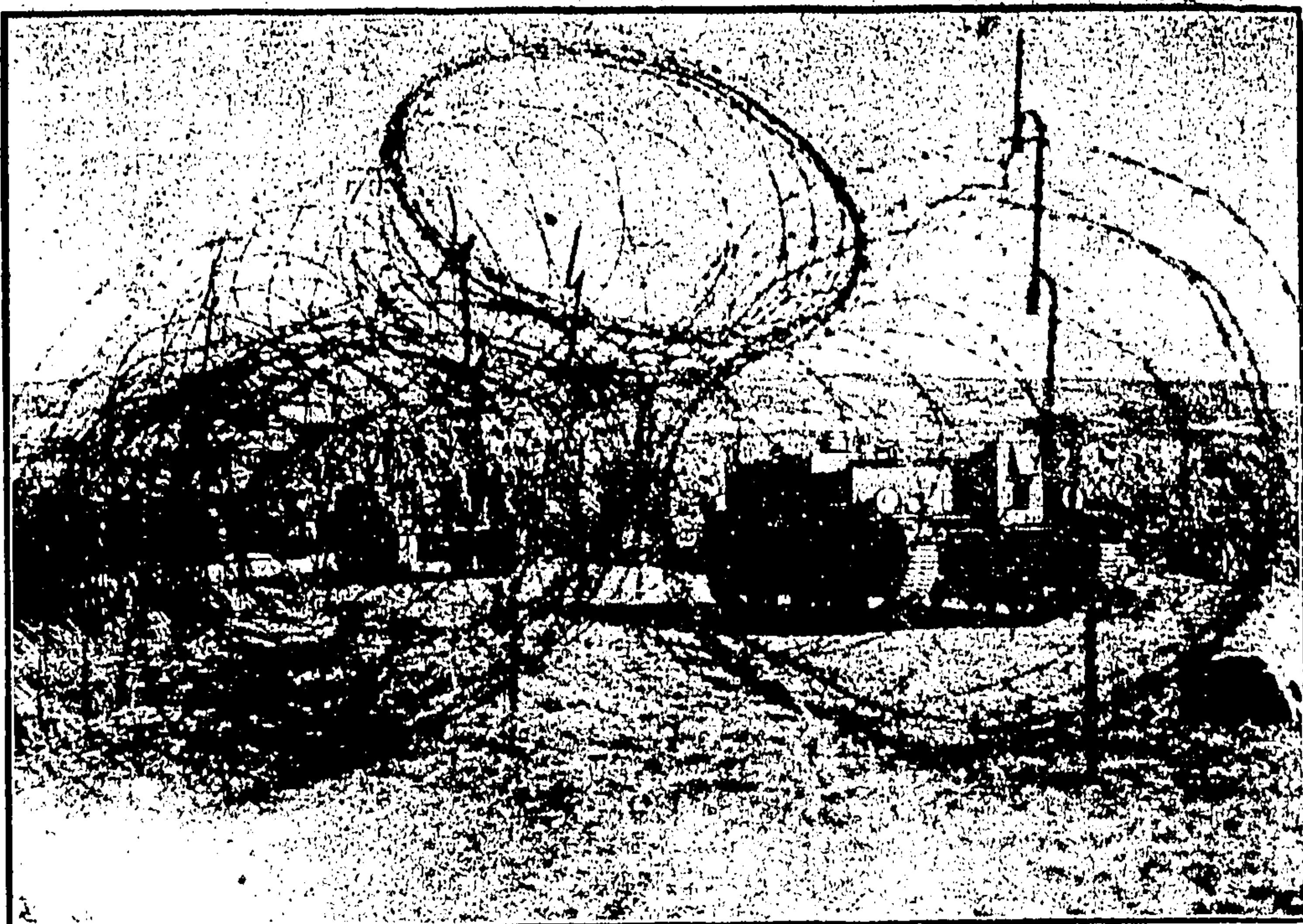
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A new-angle view of Bren carriers passing along a road and photographed through barbed wire during defence. (Copyright, Fox).

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Extensive R.A.F. Raids In Middle East

ATTACKS ON CALATO and Maritza on the Island of Rhodes and a successful night raid on Tripoli were recorded in yesterday's communique from Royal Air Force Headquarters.

A Middle East communique says on the night of Sunday-Monday, aerodromes at Calato and Maritza were raided by bombers of the R.A.F.

Bombs were dropped on a number of aircraft dispersed on the landing ground at the former place, causing heavy explosions and two large fires, believed to be enemy aircraft.

Aircraft from the Fleet Air Arm, the same night carried out a successful raid on Tripoli, bombs falling on a seaplane station where a hangar was set on fire.

In Italian East Africa, continued support was given to the army offensive. Keren was raided repeatedly and much damage was caused to stores and motor transport.

Dogfight At Asmara

At Asmara, South African fighters encountered a flumber of Italian planes, one enemy machine being shot down and several others badly damaged. Meanwhile, R.A.F. bombers raided the town of Asmara.

When enemy aircraft attacked the occupied aerodrome at Agordat, one Italian plane was shot down by anti-aircraft fire. Further, South African bombers effectively attacked Badana, Asfuda and the fort at Todenying.

In Albania

In Albania, a small formation of R.A.F. fighters, on patrol in the Koleyre area on Sunday, intercepted a large number of enemy fighters. In the ensuing engagement, four Italian planes were shot down and several others so badly damaged that it is unlikely that they returned to their base.

One British pilot had to abandon his aircraft but made a successful parachute descent and returned unharmed to the squadron.

Malta Raid

During the same night, a considerable force of enemy aircraft raided Malta.

Damage was caused to private property and a few civilians were injured.

Two German aircraft were shot down and others probably damaged.

From all these extensive operations, four British aircraft failed to return but one pilot is safe.—Reuter.

MR. MENZIES TOURS WAR FRONT

The Australian Prime Minister, Mr. R. G. Menzies, has returned from a thirty-six hour visit to the Bardia area in which he was accompanied by General Sir Thomas Blancy, Officer Commanding the Australian Forces Overseas.

The party travelled in an R.A.F. plane and flew low over the battle zone, enabling Mr. Menzies to follow the whole story of the brilliant campaign.

Mr. Menzies' visit was marked by an atmosphere of friendliness and good cheer.—Reuter.

DEBT LIMIT INCREASED

By vote of the House of Representatives yesterday, the Federal debt limit was increased to sixty-five thousand million dollars and the Federal Tax exemptions were removed from future issues of Federal Government obligations.—Reuter.

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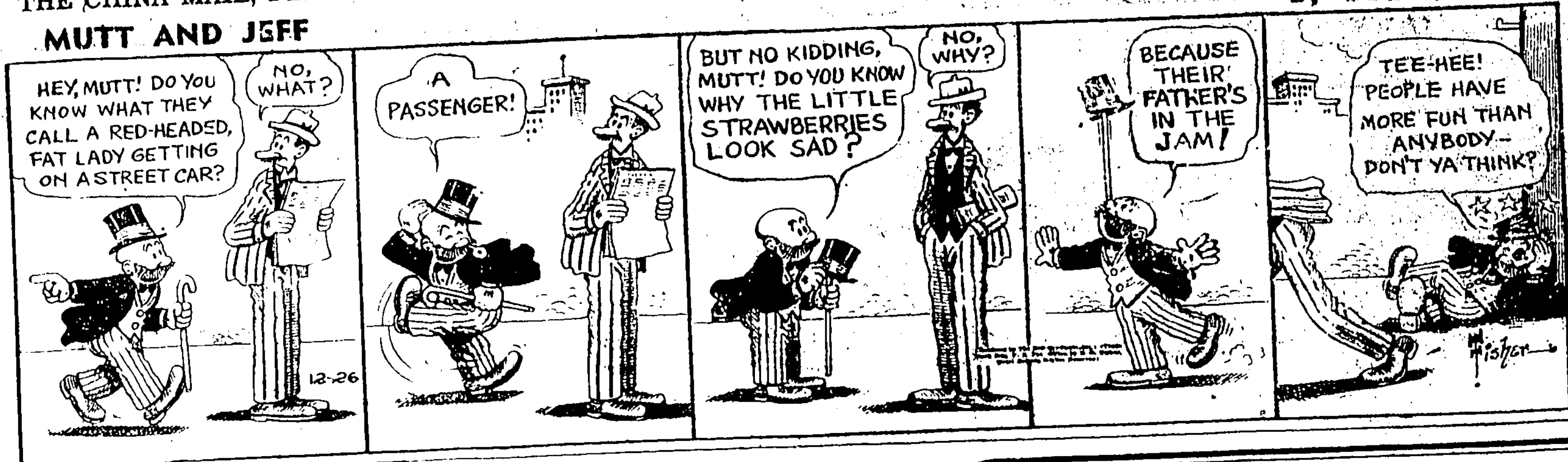
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MUTT AND JEFF



BOMB FELL ON HER PILLOW

Jim and Mary are an old London couple whose house went down in the first week of raids. They worked their way by means known only to themselves, to a Kent farm and found accommodation in a hut at the bottom of a meadow many miles from any military objective. The hut was far from comfortable, but it was shelter, and the old couple settled down.

One night, recently an enemy raider, returning after a short experience of the A.A. barrage, dropped a basket of incendiary bombs on the district. Most of them fell harmlessly into a wooded valley, but one went wide and crashed through the roof of the hut in which the old couple were sleeping.

It fell on to Mary's pillow—and did not ignite!

She was, lightly cut on the forehead by a splinter from the roof and, naturally, frightened. Her main emotion was, however, (according to the A.R.P. warden who rendered first aid,) one of anger against the thugs who unloaded bombs and indiscriminately on to the peaceful countryside.

P.C. IN LOVE TALE KILLED BY BOMB

A BOMB has ended the romance of a London police constable and the only daughter of a Scottish baronet.

Police-Constable Jack Vaughan was shepherding people to shelters during one of the fiercest spells of the London raid—he had been on duty only an hour—when the bomb fell.

He threw himself flat as it burst outside a large hotel.

He was too late. But the people he was saving escaped.

His fiancée, Miss Jean Orr-Ewing, who is staying with his parents in Wales, is grief-stricken.

She refuses to see anyone. Miss Orr-Ewing, aged twenty-two, is the daughter of Brigadier-General Sir Norman Orr-Ewing, D.S.O., and Lady Orr-Ewing, of Cardross, Port of Mentieth, Strathgairn.

Police-Constable Charles Vaughan, aged twenty-three, was the son of Mr. G. T. Vaughan, retired railway inspector, and Mrs. Vaughan of Shirley Road, Beath Park, Cardiff.

"Jack was one of the finest chaps we ever had at this station," said one of his colleagues.

"Everyone was glad to be on the same shift with him. He was a happy lad, and the first

to tackle any dangerous job. "He didn't care a rap about risks—in fact, was a man to have with you in a tight corner." Vaughan had recently been doing a special job, cleaning up night clubs.

Black-Out Meeting

Police-Constable Vaughan and Miss Orr-Ewing announced their engagement on October 30 after a courtship which began a few months before.

It was in February that Police-Constable Vaughan, on his beat near Charing Cross Station, saw a light coming from a woman's hostel in the black-out.

He knocked at the door. It was answered by a smiling bob-haired girl.

They talked. They fell in love at first sight—the police-constable and the baronet's daughter.

Miss Orr-Ewing told a reporter: "My parents have asked me to wait a bit, but I expect to be married next year."

Said Police-Constable Vaughan: "I was a bit worried about meeting Sir Norman, but we got on very well together."

"I hope to be able to bring my bride back to London to live with me next year."

THE LORD MAYOR HAD A SECRET

For a year Alderman J. A. Longdon was Lord Mayor of Sheffield.

For a year he hid under a smile his secret—that when he took office his employers sent him a letter wishing him success, and giving him the sack after thirty years as a silversmith.

Sheffield people declared they had never had a more hard-working Lord Mayor.

When he gave up office, he revealed his secret. He told a reporter:—

"I want a job now, but feel that my type of work—I make hand-made presentation cutlery—is somewhat restricted."

Mr. D. A. Palmer, principal of the firm of Joseph Rodgers and Son, Ltd., said:

"It is true that Alderman Longdon worked for us—I have heard that he made the statement to which you refer, but I refuse to make any comment upon it until I have conferred with other people."

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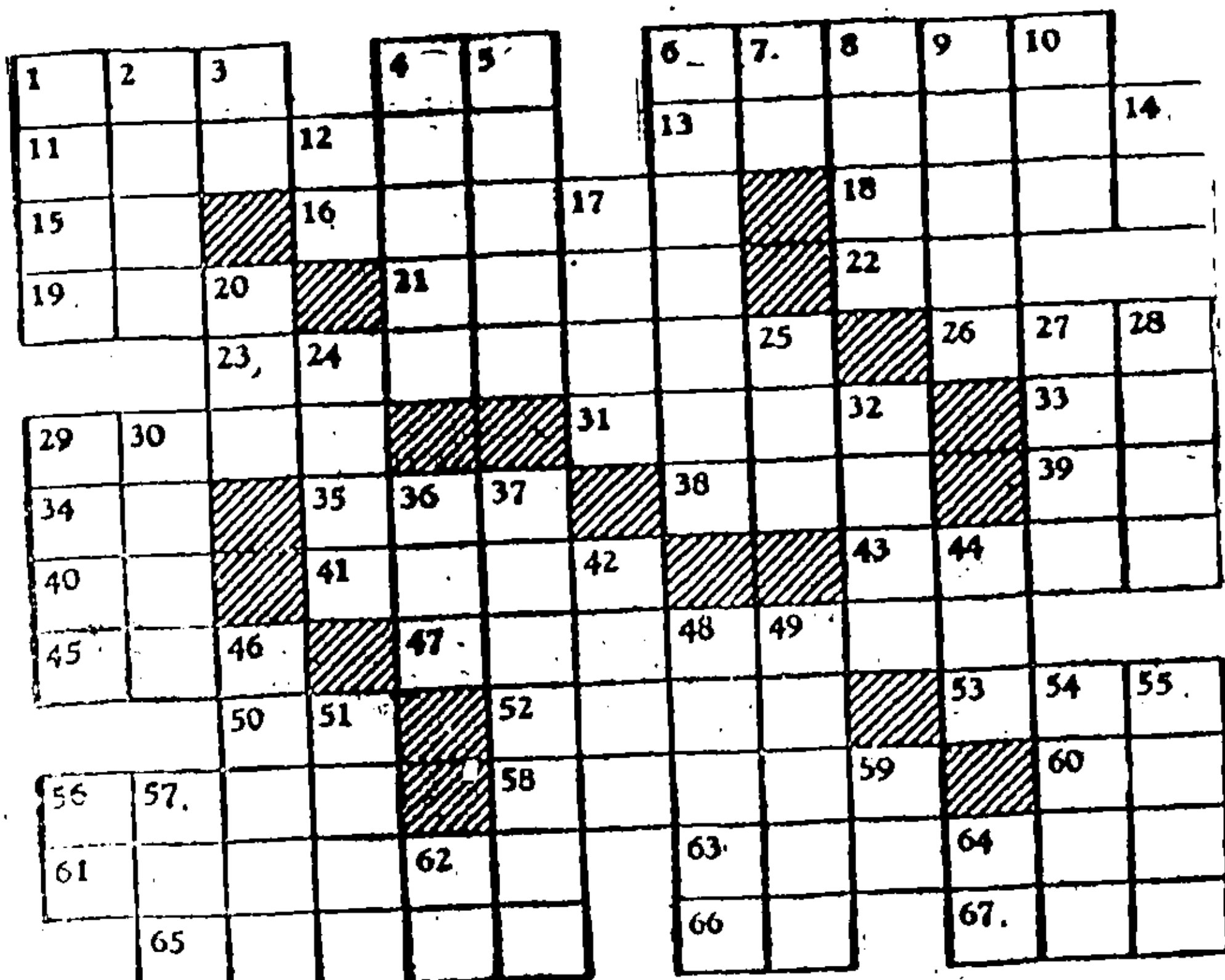
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HORIZONTAL

- 1 Eggs
- 2 Brother of John
- 3 Banquet
- 4 Crown with colored crayons
- 5 Supreme dominion
- 6 Article
- 7 Titled land
- 8 To leave out
- 9 To allow
- 10 Let it stand
- 11 Note of scale
- 12 Odious
- 13 Resident of a convent
- 14 At any time
- 15 Allowance for waste
- 16 Colloquial father
- 17 Pronoun
- 18 Time gone by
- 19 Head organ
- 20 Sacred Hindu word
- 21 Penguin
- 22 Well-mannered English queen
- 23 To take unlawfully from
- 24 German secret police

VERTICAL

- 1 Behold!
- 2 Soon
- 3 Faint
- 4 King of Israel
- 5 Aplomb
- 6 Note of scale
- 7 Famous
- 8 Florentine family
- 9 Dog star
- 10 Non-citizen resident of Attica
- 11 Symbol for oleum
- 12 Nahoor sheep
- 13 Prefix: three
- 14 Gem
- 15 Windmill blade
- 16 Since
- 17 Russian measure of distance
- 18 To excite
- 19 Salient point
- 20 Printer's measure
- 21 Footless animal
- 22 Simpleton
- 23 Prefix: three
- 24 Symbol for tantalum
- 25 Latin for "and"
- 26 Skillful
- 27 Article
- 28 Islands off Ireland
- 29 Meadow
- 30 Preposition
- 31 Title
- 32 Mohammedan prince
- 33 To forbid
- 34 Snare
- 35 Fish-spear
- 36 Nautical
- 37 To bow
- 38 Laminia
- 39 Trunk of the human body
- 40 Iron block used for forging metal
- 41 Death notice
- 42 City in Spain
- 43 Table-land
- 44 Part of "to be"
- 45 Border
- 46 Teutonic deity
- 47 101
- 48 Taxis

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U.S. PROGRESS IN BUILDING BIGGEST NAVY

AT THE END of years of spreading violence among nations, sixteen months after the start of the war in Europe, the United States' different fighting forces shape up as follows, says the "Oregonian," of December 31.

Two cruisers, one aircraft carrier and 18 destroyers were completed during the year. In addition, about 35 destroyers were converted to special purposes—fast transports to serve as "fire extinguishers" in case of attack upon the hemisphere, small seaplane tenders and the like. Fifty destroyers of world war vintage went to England in the trade for the right to lease base sites.

The number of battleships, plane carriers, cruisers, destroyers and submarines at the beginning of the year was 268 built and 78 building. At the end of the year, after the destroyer total had been reduced by the transfers to Britain and the conversions to special purposes, the figures were 321 built and 370 building. The first two of 17 new battleships now started will probably be ready in 1941.

One of the most important developments of the year, from the standpoint of immediate preparedness, is the increase in ships' complements from 85 per cent. at the beginning of the year to a point near 100 per cent. The new congress will undoubtedly be asked for authority to increase this to 115 per cent., so that trained seamen will be ready for additional units of the two-ocean navy as fast as they are completed.

Already, the manpower of the navy and the marine corps has been increased from 158,814 regular officers and men and a small number of reservists on active duty last January 1, to 217,249 regulars and 26,419 reservists on December 1, 1940.

In addition to the warship construction programme, the navy is buying and converting into auxiliary vessels large numbers of merchant ships, yachts and other vessels.

Air Force Production

Total plane production in the United States at the beginning of 1940 was 350 a month. In recent weeks, Mr. Knudsen reported that the hoped-for production of 1,000 planes in January, 1941, would have to be scaled down 30 per cent. to be correct.

Of the actual output, Britain is now taking the lion's share of the tactical planes—fighters, bombers, and certain observation planes. Aside from the government's policy of giving the besieged country all aid "short of war," the reason for this is the release of immediate deliveries to the British in exchange for later deliveries of improved models. Furthermore, several of the army's new fighter planes, among them the cannon-carrying Bell Airacobra and the two-engined Lockheed, are now coming into production.

Aeroplane engine orders placed with the Packard and Ford Motor companies have not yet had time to produce any results. Additional orders being negotiated with Buick and Studebaker are not expected to produce actual engines before 1942. Neither is the expansion order placed recently with the Allison division of General Motors, maker of liquid-cooled plane engines. Experts saw it usually takes 20 months to build an engine plant and get its product into finished planes in quantity.

Assembly Plants On Order

Four mid-western assembly plants, to put together bomber parts made in automobile factories, are yet to be built.

The navy air service, the naval reserve and the marine corps began the year with 2,145 planes and, eleven months later, had 2,435. The navy has first-line planes for its existing carriers, but needs replacements. On Decem-

ber 1 the service had 5,917 planes on order. Its training goal is about 600 fliers monthly, to be reached probably in mid-1942.

The army air corps started the year with about 2,500 planes and is ending it at least 20 months away from the goal of 18,000. The number of tactical planes received by the service in November was less than 50. Exact strength of the force to-day is kept secret, on the ground that this is information of value to an enemy.

After encountering difficulties earlier in 1940, the air corps is signing up an ample number of volunteers for training. On the basis of experience thus far it will be late 1941 or early 1942 before training reaches the ultimate rate of 12,000 a year.

CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE RIFT IN CHUNGKING

OFFICIAL AND other circles in Washington are watching with interest matched only by their concern the present civil strife in China. It is hoped that Gen. Chiang Kai-shek with skillful handling can avert what might easily become a disaster for China and victory for the Far East Axis partner.

Many here think the matter dates back to the closing of the Burma Road after which it was reported that Russian aid to China began to melt away to a mere trickle. This was accompanied by suggestions from Moscow that Gen. Chiang might profitably seek closer relations with Yen-an (headquarters of the Communist forces) and that a larger voice in the councils of the Chinese Government should be given the Chinese Communists.

Unable to look a gift horse too closely in the mouth and pessimistic about continued Democratic aid, Gen. Chiang had begun to trim his sails accordingly when the Burma Road was reopened and financial aid from America and Britain was announced. This again changed the picture and made Gen. Chiang less dependent on aid which appeared to be not entirely above suspicion.

In addition it is reported here that the Chinese Communists have scarcely been living up to their agreement with Gen. Chiang not to teach Communist doctrines in areas where they are fighting, that in fact they have done as much propagandising as fighting, and have enlisted many more men than the agreement with Chungking permitted; but whatever the causes, this civil strife is much regretted here at a time when every ounce of unity in China is necessary if the power which threatens both the Kuomintang and the Communists, namely Japan, is to be successfully fought.

Untimely Feud

The New York "Herald-Tribune," in an editorial titled "An Untimely Chinese Feud," says it is impossible to pass judgment on the situation until much more is known about it except to re-echo

PREMIER PLANS WAR AGAINST U-BOATS

Mr. Churchill is personally devoting himself to the problem of the heavy shipping losses due to enemy action in the western approaches to Britain.

This disclosure was made in the House of Commons by Sir John Anderson, Lord President of the Council. He said:

I know that the Prime Minister himself, who has unrivalled experience of these matters, is giving constant attention to the question of enemy attack from underseas and from the air upon our ships and convoys.

During the last war we had very anxious times, but we never doubted that we should find a defence to the varying methods of a resourceful enemy. The same confidence quite justly sustains us now.

the lament that it is most unfortunate. The paper states that Gen. Chiang may have been grudging and parsimonious in his assistance to the Reds but points out there is much fear in the Kuomintang and among Government officials that unless something is done a final victory over Japan might also be a Communist victory over China, and China would be out of the Japanese frying pan into the Soviet fire. This recalls a Chinese slogan which recently reached Washington that Japan "is merely lice on the body of China but Communism is a disease of the heart."

It is feared here that this attitude and the civil strife with the Communists may strengthen the arm of those who are known to be urging the Government to come to terms with Mr. Wang-Ching-wei and the Japanese.

The "Herald-Tribune" concludes its article by saying that when the Japanese are preparing for a push into the "South Seas" it is imperative in the interests of China and her friends that she immobilise as many Japanese troops as possible in China and therefore it is a great pity that a bitter domestic feud is being worked up. The paper expresses confidence that Gen. Chiang is too big to foster it, hopes he is big enough to bring it under control.—Reuter.

CHINA MAIL
WINDSOR HOUSE

DOUBTFUL ASSET

Manchukuo has long ceased to be one of the world's key news centres. Information from this Japanese dependency is scanty and usually unimportant. But an attentive study of the Japanese press, which is still franker and more informative than that of the European totalitarian states, shows that this economically backward country has been driven too hard by its Japanese military masters, with the result that serious inflationary symptoms have appeared and a considerable curtailment of ambitious production plans for the current year has been necessary.

Manchukuo is a pivotal partner in the so-called yen bloc, the other members being Japan itself and the occupied North China. Early in the year the Japanese Government worked out a plan for investing 1,200,000,000 yen there in 1940. In return Manchukuo was to concentrate on coal, steel and power industries, all capable of serving military ends, and to increase shipments of coal, iron, and farm products to Japan.

Neither side, however, was able to live up to the terms of this bargain. The Japanese capital market is so choked with issues of war bonds that it proved impossible to raise the projected amount for investment in Manchukuo, and exports from Manchukuo to Japan fell off instead of increasing. This was partly because Japanese monopolistic control of farm products has discouraged production and partly for lack of necessary raw materials.

Another retarding factor in the progress of Manchukuo is the growing inflationary trend. Official figures usually understate rather than exaggerate unfavourable financial and economic developments. But on the basis of Manchukuo official figures one learns that the wholesale price index in Hsinking, the capital of the new state, has more than doubled between 1936 and 1940, while the cost of living in Hsinking has more than doubled between 1937 and 1940.

One of Japan's contributions to genuine well-being in Manchuria, a stable currency, has thus been sacrificed to military and industrial expansion. Effective development of Manchukuo seems impossible while Japan's re-

Of course the North has had it pretty badly. That is obvious to anyone from the communiques. Few days pass without reports of raids on Merseyside, "North-West" or "North-East" towns or the "South-West" or "South-East" of Scotland, all officially vague but generally identifiable, keep on recurring.

So a tour of the bombed areas of the North might seem like jumping, if not out of the frying pan into the fire, at least out of the fire into the frying-pan. I can honestly say, however, that the only night's sleep I missed through raids during a fortnight's tour of investigation for the "Daily Herald" was when London was being heavily bombed. That was because I stayed up all night in the Manchester office keeping in touch with my colleagues who had "gone to ground" in London under terrible bombardment. There were warnings but without the "bomblings," which would disturb a seasoned campaigner like myself. "Seasoned" that is, by being in London during the first five weeks of the Blitzkrieg. Indeed the most trying part of the tour was the ordeal of travel—ten hours from Euston to Manchester, and fourteen hours from Manchester to Glasgow. And in neither case was the delay due to enemy action. They first was caused by the runaway luggage barrow which derailed an express train and in the other a wayward wagon which broke loose.

Almost as trying was the effort to avoid seeming callous and unkind. It is not easy to tell people who have had repeated raids that, by comparison with London, they scarcely know what bombing means. Yet that is true of every part of the North which I visited. Even Merseyside, which has passed its 200th raid and which next to London, is the most heavily bombed part of the country, cannot be compared with anything in London. Its raids have been mainly during the past 10 weeks. Yet I question whether the total damage of the cities and towns of the Mersey is a third of that in any one of the riverside boroughs. Apart from extensive fire damage to warehouses in one part of Liverpool, which was restricted by the fire-services and which certainly had few dislocating effects, the bombs have been dispersed and, as usual, working-class districts have suffered. But a colleague in Liverpool had to act as a guide to enable me to find the damage and, because clearance of debris had been more rapid and thorough than in London, to tell me what was bomb-destruction and what was normal demolition.

Scotland's Quota

From a record which I have seen of the number of bombs dropped in Scotland during 13 months of war, including the attacks on Scapa Flow, I should say that it is not as great as the total for any week in London since September 7th. Newcastle, as one official there put it, has "scarcely even been dented" despite persistent attempts.

As for Manchester it is still at the "gather-round-boys-and-hear-about-my-bomb" stage. Any bomb within a mile is a "razor-shave" and when I told them that in London we wore lapel-buttons with "I'm not interested in your bomb" on it they took it not as a joke but as an insult. Indeed the only place where, so far, I have sensed anxiety was in Manchester. There was certainly none in Liverpool, for instance, where the people are as solid and as stolid about the raids as they are in London.

In Glasgow, I was introduced as "an unkilted member of the London Scottish, just back from the front line" and found that at public dinners they were coupling with the toast of the Army, Navy and Air Force "and the people of London." But I found too that they were thinking of the Battle of

sources in capital and material are so heavily mortgaged for the war in China. And, while there have been no recent reports of major political unrest in Manchukuo, the nationalist discontent of its Chinese population can only be aggravated by a shaky currency and a rising cost of living.

London as we used to think of the Siege of Madrid—something magnificent but some way off. That is a matter for concern. With the lesson of London before them, local authorities must imagine the worst and then add a margin to it.

Reassuring

Most of what I found was reassuring. The arrangements for dealing with the homeless, one of main preoccupations, in each place were certainly encouraging, although nowhere, not even on Merseyside, had they been put to

By Ritchie Calder

the same desperate tests as in London. Nor had the plans, which were, on scrutiny, admirable, been improved in the light of London's experience. Liverpool, galvanised by the dynamic personality of Mr. Molyneux, its P.A.C. Officer, made the arrangements, which I saw, eighteen months ago. Just as the A.R.P. services have their control-rooms, so has the Liverpool welfare services. The "control" is in a subterranean office, linked to the other services so that an "incident" is immediately notified, and to its centres for dealing with the homeless throughout the city. In it hangs an "Operations Map" with multi-coloured studs marking the sites of the various area offices, rest centres and auxiliary centres, any one of which can be called instantly into action.

In case "H.Q." should be bombed this control room is reproduced in, and synchronised with, four other Area H.Q.'s, one of which would immediately take over. Each of these Area H.Q.'s is equipped with emergency stores of blankets, bedding, food and so on, even to baby's feeding-bottles and diapers, as well as with cooking facilities (not forgetting field kitchens in case the gas or electric supplies fail) and hot containers for transport. That is in case any of the food and rest centres, equipped and provisioned in the same way, should ever be over-taxed or new centres should have to be called into commission. Corporation kitchens provide the hot meals.

No Grapes Of Wrath

Finding homes or billets has not, so far, presented any difficulties and if they should arise Liverpool is prepared to meet them by drastic requisitioning. But I was encouraged to find that Liverpool does realise that the homeless are casualties and require as kindly handling as though they had lost a limb instead of a home. The Assistance Board and Billeting Officers go to them and there are no "Grapes of Wrath" wanderings from one department to another.

My heart warmed to Mr. Molyneux, the official who acts righteously first and argues financially afterwards. And it warmed, too, to Capt. Embleton, Chairman of the Newcastle A.R.P. committee and Deputy Controller. To Capt. Embleton, Newcastle owes its "Relief Officers." These are those "Welfare Officers" (as I prefer to call them) who, I have suggested, should move into the scene of the bombings alongside the "Incident Officers" who direct the A.R.P. Services. They gather up the homeless, make them feel befriended and cared for, tell them exactly what can and will be done for them, in the way of finding new homes, getting compensation and so on, and take them, by coach if need be, to the Food and Rest Centres. The need for such officers was so forcibly illustrated by the hapless people who were left wandering among the ruins of their London homes, that I felt sure that Newcastle had taken the lesson from them. But no, the system had been in existence for months before London was heavily bombed.

Resent Anonymity

Switching back to Merseyside, Birkenhead, until my visit, had been of those anonymous "North-West Towns" and the folks had resented it; they were

rather proud of the way they had behaved under bombs. I was able to say that they had been bombed and how well they had dealt with their homeless. It is rather nice because, although it was a case of organisation, the spirit is neighbourliness. Everybody, including the officials, seems to know everybody else by their Christian names. It comes in useful in finding homes. The Billeting Officer is not billeting; he is finding new homes and furnishing them, with the matey cooperation of the Assistance Board officials and the help of the Mayor, Mr. W. H. Egan, who had got hold of furniture and stored it throughout the town. The officer knows his people well enough to say, "Oh, Mysie couldn't go to Such-and-Such a Street, she'd not get on with Mrs. Brown. But she'd be all right alongside Mrs. Smith."

Manchester and Glasgow both have highly developed and well-conceived organisations for dealing with the homeless. Both had been planned well ahead. But the finest rest centre which I have seen was in Newcastle. It is asking almost too much but I wish it could be the model for the other parts of the country. It started off with the advantage of being the palatial mansion of a coal-and-finance magnate, with solid walls that might have been built to withstand a siege. Its stately, panelled ballroom has been set aside as the dining-hall ("refectory" would be more apt) for the homeless. Other rooms have been converted into cheerful bedrooms, filled with inviting truckle beds. There are showers and hot baths. Every room has a coal fire (important! alike for cooking and heating) but hot-water bottles are provided. The capacious cellars and vaults have been turned into air-raid shelters, heated by the hot pipes of the central-heating system. Newcastle goes on the sound principle of getting the homeless out of the Rest Centres as soon as possible into homes or billets. That is wise, because of the risks and the discomforts of the average Rest Centre. But I should not worry unduly about those who might, by unforeseen reasons, be stranded there. They would be comfortable and safe.

Rest Centres

That kind of house is not found conveniently close to bombed working-class areas as a rule, but they are to be found in outer suburbs of towns, relatively safe, and lending themselves to adaptation. Since it is so essential to get people clear of a bombed area as soon as possible, why not transfer people from "Front Line" Rest Centres to hostels such as that one, assuming similar shelter accommodation?

Another main concern was the shelter-problem. And in most places I found cause for misgiving. Until people have experience of all-night raids, the need for dormitory shelters does not come home very forcibly. Once they have to contemplate the possibility of spending a freezing winter's night in an Anderson, a surface or a basement shelter, people begin to understand lots of things which have happened in London. Everywhere in the North there is agitation about deep shelters. The Communists are "cashing in" and, of course, rousing all kinds of political resistances.

Swears

Most ordinary people in the North and in Scotland would swear by their "Andersons" if they did not have cause to swear at them. But in Manchester, for instance, I found women baling out the water preparatory to bedding down their children for the night. One woman took over 40 bucketsful out of her's. In many cases I found that the shelters had been sunk into the land-drainage ducts or with complete disregard for the obvious nature of the soil. The clamour, including deputations to the Corporation and the "ambush" of Sir Harry Haig, the Commissioner, by women when he visited a housing estate, is for proper water-proofing. The excuse is, as always, lack of cement. But what about tarmac and bitu-

men and other waterproofing agents?

In Liverpool, the surface shelters are "well-patronised," but I have seen enough samples of materials used in the structure of some of them to know that many of them ought to be, and must be, condemned. In Glasgow controversy rages over deep shelters. The exponents are not confined to the Communists. Far from it. Personally, I did not mean to get embroiled. I took a detached view. I was given details of "work done" and "work in hand," but what impressed me a great deal more was direct observation. I know the Glasgow slums and the working-class tenements pretty well and, without official escort, I went to see for myself. The conclusions were disturbing. Baffle walls at the open mouths of the entrances to tall tenement buildings do not seem good enough to me. Even if I accepted the safety-factor, I know these "closes" on a winter's night and I would no more shelter in them than in a refrigerator. Alternative surface shelters seemed far from adequate.

Glasgow Sleep

Glasgow is a city of indispensable workers. They need sleep. Where will they get it if all-night raids start? They themselves will tell you "in our beds." Lots of us vowed that once I was told that deep shelters in Glasgow are impossible. I was even told that the City was "built on rock." So I went to my friends the geologists. Glasgow, they assured me, is largely built on "drumlins," little hills of boulder clay. Tenement streets climb steeply up and down them. Lanarkshire has miners. Scotland has brilliant mining engineers. I think there is a job for them.

Edinburgh I found alive and alert on the shelter problem, although with a lot to do. It is, like Glasgow, a city of tall, solidly built stone buildings. Some of them have stood three hundred years and more. But Edinburgh has houses built on steep slopes and, consequently to reach street level they have as many as three layers of cellars. It is estimated that 80,000 people could be accommodated in one kind of basement or another. To provide dormitory deep-shelter for workers a stretch of deep railway tunnel is being taken over. Caves on the outskirts are likely to be converted and as far as I could judge, the authorities would be open-minded to any deep-shelter suggestion.

Newcastle Medal

It is Newcastle, however, which deserves the medal. Without waiting for grants it provided for 2½ miles of admirable deep shelter, in which, as Embleton said: "You can walk to safety." True, that tunnel was a "gift." It was a coal-haulage way, 60 to 80 feet underground. The City converted it. And it would not acquire particular merit for doing something so obvious, if it had not shown real imagination as well.

For example, there is a culvert, carrying a stream for three-quarters of a mile underground. It is a spacious culvert. Newcastle turned it into one of the finest deep shelters in the country—by the simple device of flooring it over well above spate level. And the result is a commodious clean, naturally ventilated, well-lit, well-equipped shelter, capable of sleeping thousands.

Again, the Corporation had sanctions for a new drainage scheme. The Engineer was told to make the drain big enough and deep enough underground to make into a shelter, its drainage function being postponed for the duration.

A mine "drift" is being converted, to provide deep-shelter for workers who need dormitory accommodation.

And there is another scheme so ingenious and yet so obvious that the censors will not let me mention it because it would provoke the bombers. It is true that Newcastle has used existing facilities, but it has also used its brains.

What I have tried to impress upon everyone whom I have talked to in the North is that the lesson of London has to be learned quickly or it will be learned tragically. The Battle of London is only a phase in the wider Battle.



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ITALY TOLD OF RATIONING HARDSHIPS IN GERMANY

ITALIAN CORRESPONDENTS in Germany are given facilities for describing conditions there, but some of their despatches are hardly likely to win enthusiasm for the Reich.

Italian girls must imagine themselves in some sort of paradise after reading in the newspaper "Popolo di Roma" recently how a fraulein disposed of her year's 150 clothes ration card points in three hours and had very little to show for them.

The article assured readers that "in Germany" not a single thing may be bought without the appropriate documents." The correspondent went shopping with a woman friend and saw 75 of the 150 points spent on three articles only. These were a woollen dress, 40 points; a coat, 20, and a blouse, 15.

Small articles such as stockings and handkerchiefs brought the points total to within 14 of a maximum. As these were not sufficient for pyjamas she borrowed some points from a friend.

Stockings Must Last

Only six pairs of stockings a year are permitted.

The Italian's woman friend still wanted an overcoat. She could get it only by depositing her old one with a committee empowered to grant the necessary ration points.

A person who needs an overcoat and has neither point nor old coat must apply to the police who, if they are suspicious, make a house inspection.

"A very simple thing," said the "Popolo di Roma's" correspondent.

Every person in Germany may have two pairs of shoes. If he possesses more he must give up one to acquire a new pair. This operation may be carried out only once a year.

Hats may be bought without a ration card. "The police have not yet poked their noses into this branch of feminine elegance," the correspondent comments.

SIR D. POUND ON INTRIGUE

Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, and the First Sea Lord, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Dudley Pound, replied to attacks on naval administration when they spoke in London at the annual reunion luncheon of the R.N.V.R. (Auxiliary Patrol) Club.

"The attacks made upon me personally, and sometimes quite wrongly on the naval staff, don't affect us individually," said Sir Dudley. "They just run off our backs like water off a duck's back. But the people who make these attacks ought to realize that what they are doing is spreading distrust in the country and helping our enemies in that way."

Declaring that it was difficult if those who were competent to know thought that someone better could take their places, Sir Dudley added: "But we do object that attempts should be made to oust us by intrigue. That is quite enough about a very sordid matter."

Mr. Alexander's Reply

Mr. A. V. Alexander said that Sir Dudley was as often the subject of public attack as he was himself.

"I do not mind public attack, and I am perfectly certain he does not either," said Mr. Alexander. "I feel that personalities and publicity which have been made evident in recent attacks are very often unworthy of the people who launch them."

"They may rest assured that neither the First Sea Lord, nor I has any other purpose to serve than to reach the steadfast goal we have set ourselves — to win this war, to defeat Hitler and his satellites, and to make a home for the future in which our people may dwell in peace and security."

On war prospects, Mr. Alexander said: "We face with confidence and determination the task of making sea power hold on and lead to victory, and I am convinced we are going both to hold on and win the victory."

ART LIBRARY

In normal times, art students from all over the world visit Sir Robert Witt's house in Portman Square, W., which was raided by burglars. Their object is to consult the famous photographic reference library of the world's pictures, which Sir Robert and his wife have been building up for over 40 years. They both had the same hobby before their marriage, and then they pooled their collections. The prints are stored in 4,000 cases, each holding 100, and they are so well indexed that any one of the 400,000 can be turned up in 30 seconds. On Sir Robert's death the library is to be bequeathed to the Courtauld Institute, with an adequate endowment fund.

The King and New Regiment—The King has assumed the honorary colonelcy of the Newfound-land Heavy Regt. Royal Artillery, raised only last spring. The first contingent reached Britain in May, and other contingents have since landed here to receive their training.

KENNEDY'S CRITICS

Mr. Joseph Kennedy's resignation of the United States Ambassadorship in London has aroused much editorial discussion in the United States. Reaction falls into three main groups.

Some newspapers are frankly relieved to see him go. Others, while praising the zeal and ability he displayed, make no attempt to conceal their uneasiness about the tenor of his remarks in many private conversations since his return to the United States.

"Kennedy has resisted the well-known British 'blandishment' which have always been dealt out to United States Ambassadors and which have succeeded in turning most of them into dewy-eyed Anglophiles," says the "Daily News." "In Kennedy's case even the good offices of Royalty was invoked to hypnotise him, but he stayed un-hypnotised."

Himself To Blame

The New York "Times" states: "American people would be ungrateful if they did not recognise and remember the good work Kennedy did for them in London. If his real services are now clouded by off-the-record interviews, Kennedy has only himself to blame."

"Unguarded talk was always one of the defects of his qualities in London. Another was reliance on 'hunches' rather than on cool analysis."

The "Herald Tribune" asserts less charitably: "It is the simple if, perhaps, unpleasant truth that with Kennedy's definite disconnection from the diplomatic service a vast number of Americans honestly concerned for their country and her freedom will breathe more easily."

One well-known Washington columnist, Mark Sullivan, is perturbed by Mr. Kennedy's hints that Britain is turning into a Socialist country. Sullivan says that the United States ought to try to get more information on this subject before committing itself to closer collaboration.

The New Orleans "Times" comments: "Kennedy's ambassadorial role has not been his most successful, and his relinquishment of the London post need not be deeply regretted by his own or the British Government in the light of his reported views on the war situation and Britain's fate."

'KEEP ATTACKING'

"We have got to keep on hitting our enemies now while preparing in the most thorough manner to deliver the most decisive and best prepared offensive that has ever been launched, and at the right time and the right place," Field-Marshal Sir Cyril Deverell said at Huddersfield recently.

Sir Cyril, who was formerly Chief of the Imperial General Staff and is now honorary Director-General of the Army and R.A.F. Savings Association, was speaking at a luncheon to inaugurate Huddersfield's War Weapons Week.

"Whether we meet the German army in England or elsewhere, we shall be up against the most highly trained and equipped army in the world," he said.

"Obviously we have got to train and equip our army to the same standard in the quickest time possible."

Ernest Hemingway, Married—Mr. Ernest Hemingway, the American author, was married in Cheyenne, Wyoming, to Miss Martha Gellhorn, 28, also a writer, whose first marriage to M. Bertrand de Jouvenel in Paris in 1933 ended in divorce. Mr. Hemingway obtained a divorce last November.

America Fears Hitler's Surprise Stroke

ADMINISTRATION leaders in Washington believe that the next eight or 10 weeks will tell whether the United States will be plunged into actual warfare against the Axis because of President Roosevelt's unprecedented programme to "guarantee" a British victory.

Actually, it is war right now without any shots being fired and there is an alliance between the United States and Britain without any seals or signatures.

Chancellor Hitler, however, knows in the Washington knows that the United States cannot deliver a surprise stroke of arms to Britain before a month or a year and hence Chancellor Hitler may attempt a knockout blow at Britain before the United States' planes, guns, ships and tanks can be delivered in sufficient quantities.

London's Government officials, notably the Prime Minister, are fully aware of the possibility of a surprise stroke of arms to Britain before the United States' planes, guns, ships and tanks can be delivered in sufficient quantities.

One high official, taking the odds on such a Nazi undertaking are early 50 to 40 in Britain's favour.

"Total Destruction"

Those close to President Roosevelt fear that Chancellor Hitler's surprise stroke may be even worse than an invasion that he may try to knock Britain out by "total destruction" from the air, for which Coventry and London bombing may have been merely rehearsals.

The threat of total destruction, it is said, is a direct result of the "expansion" of the United States' policy of "all out" aid to Britain—a direct result of the "expansion" of the United States' policy of "all out" aid to Britain.

I can state on authority that the United States' new policy of "all out" aid to Britain is a direct result of the "expansion" of the United States' policy of "all out" aid to Britain.

Hitler Bought "Peace"

That was the theme of the "phony" speech which reports reaching Mr. Roosevelt's home purportedly delivered by Reich Air Marshal Hermann Goering, that Chancellor Hitler was in a mood to end the war.

Chancellor Hitler was in a mood to end the war.

Chancellor Hitler was in a mood to end the war.

President's Challenge

Mr. Welles returned and Mr. Roosevelt flung down the challenge that there can be no reconciliation between the Axis "tyranny" and the Democratic "way of life."

The barricade had been thrown up but there had been no shooting. In this race against time to arm Britain, however, the United States undoubtedly will be compelled to take bolder steps than any disclosed thus far.

What developments might drive Chancellor Hitler to declare war?

1. Use of American warships to convoy arms shipments across the Atlantic.

2. Use of American merchant ships through modification of the Neutrality Law to transport war supplies to the British Isles.

3. Seizure and handing over to Britain of foreign merchant ships now tied up in United States ports.

All must be regarded as strong possibilities, because they offer relief of Britain's most urgent shipping needs.

Other Considerations

Sources close to the President believe Chancellor Hitler's anger will be tempered by such considerations as:

Japan.—Whether he can count upon the Japanese to enter the war under the triple alliance, which contains the loophole that Japan is obligated to fight only in the event of "attack" by the United States or other non-belligerents.

Russia.—Whether Chancellor Hitler could feel sure of the Soviets, who are at his back, while meeting a new and powerful enemy in the west.

Italy.—Whether war on the United States might prove to be the move needed to break down Italy's wobbly war machine.

France and Spain.—Whether they might complete the already serious troubles between Germany and France and turn starving Spain from the Axis.

There is a deep conviction in circles close to Mr. Roosevelt that Chancellor Hitler will move cautiously in taking the United States as a declared enemy and that Germany, for all her threats, is likely to stand for a vast outpouring of United States' aid to Britain before she declares war.

OUTDOES THE KAISER

Sir Robert Vansittart, Chief Adviser to the Foreign Office, traced in a B.B.C. overseas broadcast similarities between the Kaiser's Germany and Hitler's Germany. He described Nazism as an outcome and not an aberration.

"The Kaiser's speeches were essentially the same as Hitler's," he stated. "Adolph, the clap-trap king, would have liked the flamboyant flourishes of the imperial barnstormer. The cry for a dominant race of nordic master-men was persistent. At that time it came from fanatics like Nietzsche and Treitschke; now it comes from mongrels like Hitler and Goebbels."

"It must be realised that in Poland, for example, the Brazen Horde is carrying out a policy of racial extermination as systematically as Imperial Germany exterminated the Herrerros. The torturers and assassins and exterminators of the Gestapo are the lineal descendants of that imperial butcher bird, Gen. von Trotha, who in the Kaiser's heyday deliberately wiped out whole tribes in Africa."

"Other similarities between Kaiser and Fuehrer are their boundless conceit, their laughable megalomania. But for this combination of conceit and megalomania Hitler would never have given away so much of his game in Mein Kampf."

5 MILLION MORE BATTLE-SUITS

Contracts have just been signed, states the Ministry of Supply, for the largest single order for serge battle-dress placed since the war began—5,000,000 blouses and 6,000,000 trousers. Nearly 250 clothing contractors, in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, will be engaged on the work. The 9,000 miles of serge, taking 10,000 tons of wool required, will be manufactured by 150 firms. Nine thousand miles of lining material will also be used. More than 200,000,000 brass buttons will be sewn on the uniforms.

CURATE GASSED, NURSE DEAD

When a 51-year-old clergyman and a nurse of 46 were together in a Bournemouth flat they failed to notice an escape of gas, with the result that the nurse died and the clergyman became unconscious.

This theory was put forward by the deputy coroner, Mr. T. C. Thompson, at the inquest on the nurse, Miss Elsie J. Widgery, of Ardmore Road, Parkstone, at Bournemouth when a verdict of accidental death was returned.

The coroner said that the jury would have gathered that the two people were very occupied with one another. It seemed to him highly improbable that the tragedy was pre-arranged or that it was an attempt by of them to kill the other.

The inquest had been adjourned for the clergyman, the Rev. Eric Sherrin Tarrant, perpetual curate of Wool Dorset, to give evidence, but the coroner said that he had received medical certificates stating that Mr. Tarrant's memory had not recovered from the shock, and that he was not in a fit state to travel.

Found On Bed

P.S. Butter, who forced an entry into the flat, said that Miss Widgery was on the bed dead and Mr. Tarrant was on the floor. There was a partly consumed bottle of sherry and two wine glasses which had been used, one of the glasses being on the floor was the stem broken.

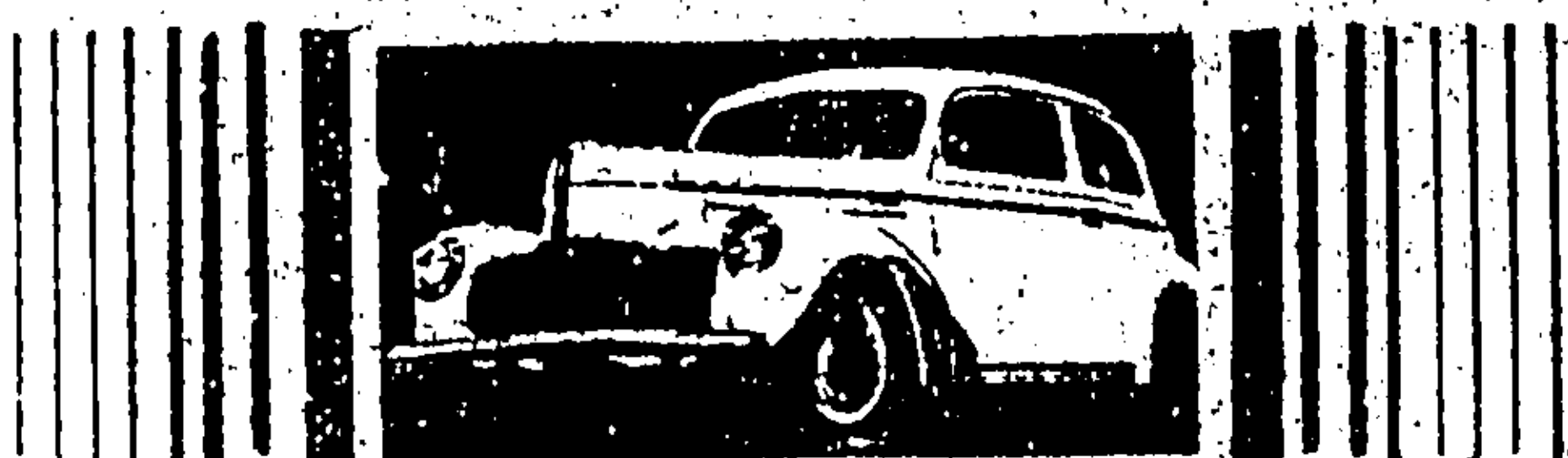
There was also a tray of tea things on the table which had not been used, and a kettle was on the gas ring with only a very little water in it. The taps of the gas ring and gas fire were turned on. Mr. Tarrant was only partially dressed.

Mr. Lewis Manning, for Mr. Tarrant, said that his client's brother, his wife and Mrs. Tarrant's mother were present to give evidence if necessary.

It might be that Mr. Tarrant would never remember what happened on the afternoon in question. His meeting with Miss Widgery was not a haphazard one. She had been known to the family for two or three years and was a frequent visitor to Mr. Tarrant's home.

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PUBLIC AUCTIONS

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

Tuesday, the 11th, February, 1941 commencing at 11.00 a.m. at their Sales Room, No. 2, Connaught Road, Central (2nd Floor)

323 Pairs Boots.
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336 Pairs Khaki Trousers.
153 Caps.
62 Pairs Canvas Rubber Shoes.
58 Pairs Drab Hosetops.
46 Pairs Puttees.
29 Pairs Khaki Breeches.
20 Khaki Helmets.
27 White Khaki Overalls.
24 Khaki Overalls.

also

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BRIDGE NOTES

A LUCKY HAND

By The Four Aces

South was lucky to make his contract, but he should be given credit for timing his plays so as to take advantage of his good fortune:

South, Dealer
Neither side vulnerable

♠ A K 6
 ♥ K 10 6 3
 ♦ K 8 4
 ♣ 8 7 3

♠ 7 4 2
 ♥ Q 8 7 5 2
 ♦ A 10
 ♣ 5 4 2

♠ Q 10 5
 ♥ A
 ♦ Q 7 6 3
 ♣ 2

♠ J 9 8 3
 ♥ J 9 4
 ♦ J 9 5
 ♣ A K 6

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

West opened the five of hearts against the ambitious three-no-trump contract. East took the heart Ace and returned the Queen of clubs. And, after some thought, South put up the Ace of clubs.

The opening trick assured him of three heart tricks, and the top cards in the black suits would yield four more. Two additional tricks were required for the contract. Both could be found in spades, if West happened to hold the Queen and only one other spade; otherwise it would be necessary to play West for the diamond Ace (so as to win a trick with dummy's diamond King) and also to find a third spade trick.

South began by leading the Jack of hearts and letting it ride for a successful finesse. Next he led the heart nine, winning in dummy with the heart ten. But it was still too early to cash the King of hearts; that would set up West's last heart and lead to the defeat of the contract. Instead he cashed the top spades and when the Queen failed to fall, he led the low spade from the dummy.

East took the spade Queen and returned the Jack of clubs, but South carefully refused to win the trick. But he could safely win the next club and cash the spade Jack. Then a diamond lead towards dummy's King found West powerless to prevent the two red Kings from making tricks.

Yesterday you were Merwin Moler's partner and, with neither side vulnerable, you held,

♠ K J 9 8
 ♥ 10 5
 ♦ A 10 7
 ♣ Q J 10 6

The bidding:

You	Jacoby	Moler	Schenken
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
(?)			

ANSWER: Bid one spade. There is no need to jump at this point, since your partner will re-bid if he has a legitimate opening bid. If he hasn't, all more reason for you not to jump the bidding. Score 100% for one spade, 50% for two no-trump, 0 for any other bid.

Question No. 636

To-day you hold the same hand, and the bidding continues.

You	Jacoby	Moler	Schenken
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
(?)			

What do you bid? (Answer

To-morrow.)
(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

TEACHER-MASTER DECREE

SUBMISSIONS BY counsel that a wife's statements in the witness-box in the Divorce Court should be regarded plainly as those of a 'sex-maniac' were turned down by Sir Boyd Merriman, President.

The wife, principal witness in support of her husband's petition, was a schoolteacher from 1905 to 1937, and said she had committed misconduct over a period of twenty years with a master, now head of a Manchester school.

The co-respondent denied the charges on oath, and his counsel said the wife was proved to have made, in the course of the last fifteen years or so, allegations of sexual immorality in one form or another against certain of her men and women colleagues.

Sir Boyd found the wife and the co-respondent guilty of misconduct. He granted the husband a decree nisi with costs and awarded £200 damages against the co-respondent.

The petition was by Mr. Henry Donnelly, warehouse clerk, of Salford Road, Old Trafford, Manchester, against Mrs. Ruth Donnelly, King's Road, Old Trafford, alleging misconduct with Mr. Reginald Hugh Fuller, headmaster of St. Mary's Boys' School, Hulme, Manchester.

Mr. Fuller, who is married, lives in Newport Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy. In 1921 he was promoted from assistant master to headmaster of the school at which Mrs. Donnelly was an assistant mistress.

Suspended

Sir Boyd Merriman said that, according to Mrs. Donnelly's story, she had become very friendly with Mr. Fuller before he joined up in the last war.

She said that during Mr. Fuller's Army service she used to send him presents of chocolate and so on, but he denied that.

Then, she said, having been invalided out of the Army, Mr. Fuller returned to the school in November, 1917, at once began to show a particular interest in her and soon after did what she had variously described as "rapping or seducing her."

Sir Boyd said it was difficult to imagine any jury coming to the conclusion that she was raped. It could be left at this: that, if her story was true, her consent in the first instance was reluctant.

At the end of September, 1937, over what would otherwise appear to have been a somewhat trivial matter, a row flared up between her and the co-respondent on some subject of school discipline, with the result that Mr. Fuller reported her and, in effect, she was suspended.

That suspension was followed by a campaign of letter writing. Mrs. Donnelly wrote long letters to various people connected with the school and ultimately sent out a printed broadcast sheet which Sir Boyd gathered went to various parents and others—telling the story he was dealing with now.

The President said Mr. Fuller had categorically denied that he was any more friendly with Mrs. Donnelly than with other people, and declared the whole thing was a vicious charge-worked up in revenge because her son had lost his place in the school.

WED 50 YEARS AFTER PARTING

They were childhood friends more than fifty years ago. They lost sight of each other, next met as grown-ups with families, and parted again, only to meet a third time years later at a home for lonely people.

And now, at the Bond Street register office, Hull, Mr. William Robinson, seventy, and Mrs. Emma Ward, aged sixty-five, were married.

Mr. Robinson, a retired grocer, has one son by his former marriage. Mrs. Ward has seven sons and one daughter living.

"After the death of my first husband I went to live in the Ada Holmes rest house for people absolutely alone," said the bride.

"About a year ago Mr. Robinson came to live there."

"Aren't you the William Robinson who used to keep a grocer's shop in the Hebble Road?" I asked.

"After a while we decided to keep each other company for the rest of our lives." Mr. and Mrs. Robinson now have a home of their own on the North Hull Council Housing Estate.

DOG BITES

Are Dangerous,

a physician should therefore be consulted without delay if you have the misfortune to be bitten by a dog.

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BARKED SOS TO POLICE

(By A Special Correspondent)

A white dog, barking frantically as she swam around her mistress, guided river police to a mobile canteen which had plunged into Bristol Harbour in the black-out.

The dog was saved, but her owner—Mrs. Dorothy Furneaux Cook, widow, aged fifty, of Rodney Cottages, Clifton, Bristol—was drowned.

Mrs. Cook was driving one of the Y.M.C.A. canteens presented to the King by the T.U.C.

Ever since it arrived in Bristol a fortnight ago it had been in twenty-four-hour use.

For several nights in succession Mrs. Cook had driven it to A.F.S. workers, first-aid posts and demolition.

Always she had her pet—Vanka, a Russian Samoyed—with her.

Then one Sunday night she set out on her rounds for the last time.

Her Epitaph

With her were two Sea Scout assistants—Alfred Ayles, aged eighteen, of Penfield Street, and Peter Carter, aged fifteen, of Denbigh Street, both of Bristol.

They were in the back of the canteen when it plunged into the harbour from an unfenced road.

Flung clear through the unlocked back doors they tried to rescue Mrs. Cook, but they could not find her in the darkness and they swam to safety.

Mrs. Cook's daughter, who lived with her at Rodney Cottages, spoke this epitaph:

"This is how mother would

Lord St. Levan, owner of Mount St. Michael—the little island township off Marazion, Cornwall—has died at his Marazion home, The Rookery, aged eighty-three.

John Townshend St. Aubyn, Lord St. Levan, was the second baron.

In 1892 he married Lady Edith Hilary Edgcombe, daughter of the fourth Earl of Mount Edgcombe, and had two daughters. Lady Levan died in 1931, and in 1933, at the age of seventy-two, Lord St. Levan married the seventy-two-year-old widow of the second Earl of Dartrey.

It was when he was a young officer that he first met Miss Julia Wombwell, as she then was, and they became great friends. Society gossip hinted that they would marry, but they did not—until more than fifty years later.

Heir to the title is Lord St. Levan's nephew, Mr. Francis Cecil St. Aubyn, son of the late Hon. Arthur James Dudley Stuart St. Aubyn, Lord St. Levan's brother, who died in 1897.

like to have died—serving her country."

The canteen has been raised. Soon it will be repaired and put back into the service for which Mrs. Cook, W.V.S., gave her life.

OFF THE RECORD

By ED REED

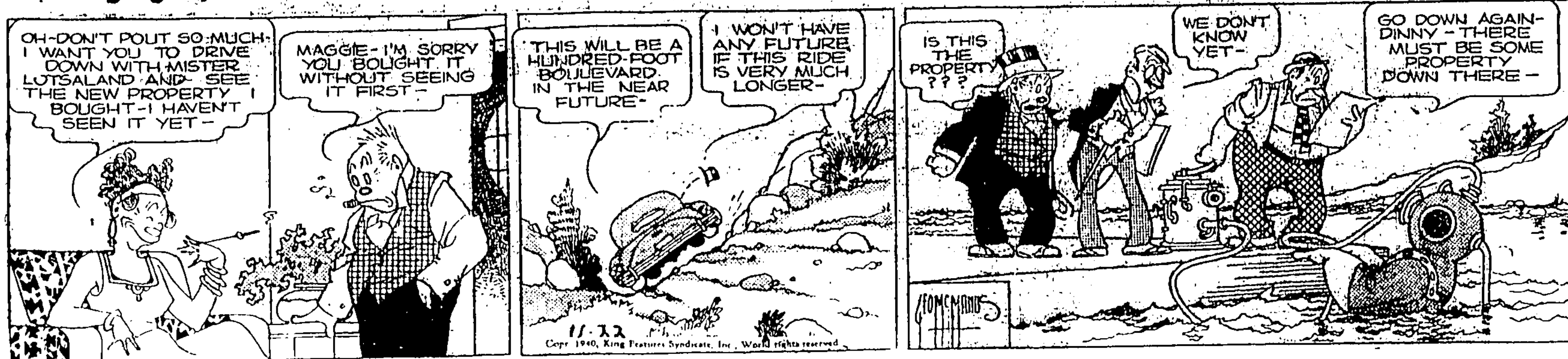


Here's Luck

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Bringing Up Father



A PAGE FOR WOMEN

Waistline Slenderised

Even some very young women have what is called a spare tyre at their waistlines. This is a roll of fat which shouldn't be there at all and no corset or girdle can conceal it. In fact, a corset or girdle is apt to accent it as the excess flesh around the hip-line is pushed up to the waistline by any constricting garment.

A spare tyre definitely ages one's figure and it should be dieted and exercised into oblivion!

This roll of flesh is caused by permitting your midriff to grow flabby and your posture poor. The sagging abdominal muscles cannot do their job of holding you up and keeping your waistline slim.

To begin a programme of re-fashioning you must heed the advice of Miss Van Rensselaer who is an authority on figure correction at the American Woman's Association in New York.

"Keeping your stomach held in and up and your chest lifted high will not necessarily take off excess flesh at your waistline, but it will make a very definite difference in the appearance of your figure and tends to firm the abdominal muscles. You teach them to behave and that is important," she claims.

And to supplement this conscientious habit of standing and walking in good posture, Miss Van Rensselaer suggests the following three exercises to be done every day, or every other day if you



This industrious beauty is practicing the Back Lying Scissors exercise described in to-day's column.

have another exercise routine to master!

Exercises To Slim Abdomen

Back Lying Scissors: Lie flat on your back, hands on hips. Keeping knees straight, raise right leg and as you lower it to the floor lift left leg. Repeat this scissor fashion 15 to 20 times in quick rhythm. Then rest and repeat.

Free Bicycle: Lie flat on back. Raise knees to chest, then go through the motions of pedalling a bicycle by extending right leg forward, down and back to chest; the left leg following the same procedure and in rhythm. Repeat 15 to 20 times. Rest and repeat.

Double Leg Lowering, Left and Right: Lie on the floor on your back, hands grasping the foot of the bed or a heavy chair behind you elbows touching the floor. Raise both legs up, swing to the right and down to the floor in an arc; up and back to original position. Three times to each side. Rest and repeat.

Lingerie Touches

There is a tendency to go drab in dress during the cold months. A woman is likely to figure that her coat is going to hide her dress so why bother to fuss. When you begin to feel like that take a good squint at yourself in your mirror—I'll bet you look pretty uninteresting! Make a turn about face and perk up—lack of vanity is a sure sign of old age getting you or that you are in need of a vacation and change!

Bright new make-up helps a lot to make a woman look chic and thoughtfully groomed. Winter shades are keyed to winter clothes colours and as one's skin lightens a shade or two during the colder months check and see if your powder is light enough for your skin tone. Keep your skin well lubricated so it will not look wrinkled and old—notice the difference in your appearance when you apply shiny cream to your face! Literally the lubricant makes your skin look years younger.

Lingerie Touches Always Good

By sewing on a pretty organdie ruffle, or a smart set of collar and cuffs to an oldish dress you not only get more wear from the model but it looks new on you. White, or the paler pastel shades near one's face are most flattering and more women should take advantage of the delightful assortment of neckwear offered. Every type of woman has been considered by the designers and you are bound to find a lingerie set which will give you and your dress the lifts needed!

I'll wager you have had the experience of being caught looking unglorified by someone whom you

wanted terribly to impress—an old beau, a catty female friend, your son's best girl—or any one of the people important in your life. It certainly pays to look smart all of the time and a woman likes herself better and radiates poise and charm if she knows she is most presentable.

Other Incidentals

Look over your shoes too, they may need new heel lifts or a professional cleaning. Oxford laces have a way of growing limp all of a sudden so keep on hand a few fresh pairs of laces for such emergencies.

Around February the gloves you bought at the beginning of the season look the worse for wear. Have yours cleaned or buy a new pair or two, because fingers fumble if one's gloves are ill-fitting or soiled.

Little details of grooming make a great difference between a drab, uninteresting appearance and one of alluring smartness. All women should give these details the consideration they merit.



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S.S. PRESIDENT HAYES	April 20

TO MANILA

S.S. PRESIDENT COOLIDGE	February 15
S.S. PRESIDENT PIERCE	February 26
S.S. PRESIDENT TAFT	March 11

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Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

INWARD MAILS	
TUESDAY	
Canton	
FRIDAY	
Straits and Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" (except London) by sea from Singapore.	
Canton	
Java and Manila.	
U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan and Shanghai (San Francisco date, 24th January).	
SATURDAY	
United Kingdom and Straits.	
United Kingdom and Straits.	
MONDAY	
Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 10th February.	
Sandakan	
FOR	DATE & TIME
OUTWARD MAILS	
TUESDAY	
Straits, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa	10.30 a.m.
Canton	7.00 p.m.
THURSDAY	
Air Mail by Sea to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways" K.P.O. & G.P.O.	
Reg.	10.00 a.m.
Ord.	10.30 a.m.
Straits and Calcutta.	
Parcels	10.30 a.m.
Letters	11.30 a.m.
Straits, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa	3.30 p.m.
FRIDAY	
Air Mail by Air to Rangoon to connect with the "British Overseas Airways" K.P.O.	
Reg.	4.00 p.m.
Ord.	4.30 p.m.
G.P.O.	
Reg.	4.00 p.m.
Ord.	4.30 p.m.
Formosa and Dairen	7.00 p.m.
Canton	7.00 p.m.
MONDAY	
Shanghai and Parcels only for United Kingdom.	
K.P.O.	
Parcels	4.00 p.m.
Reg.	5.00 p.m.
Ord.	5.30 p.m.
G.P.O.	
Parcels	4.00 p.m.
Reg.	5.00 p.m.
Ord.	7.00 p.m.
Air Mail for Manila, Guam, Honolulu, U.S.A. and Europe via "Pan-American Airways and Trans-Atlantic Services."	
K.P.O.	
Reg.	5.00 p.m.
Ord.	5.30 p.m.
G.P.O.	
Reg.	5.00 p.m.
Ord.	7.00 p.m.

* Superscribed Correspondence Only.

RADIO

12.28 p.m.—Dvorak — Concerto in A Minor, Op. 53.

1.03 p.m.—Rawicz and Landauer on Two Pianos.

1.15 p.m.—Regimental Band of H.M. Grenadier Guards.

1.30 p.m.—Reuter and Rugby Press. Weather Forecast and Announcements.

1.45 p.m.—Dance Music by Billy Cotton and His Band.

2.15 p.m.—Close down.

5.45 p.m.—Indian Programme.

6.32 p.m.—Haydn—Symphony No. 102 in B Flat Major.

6.55 p.m.—A Song.

7.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.

7.15 p.m.—London Relay—Questions of the Hour.

7.30 p.m.—Portuguese Programme.

8.03 p.m.—Verdi's "Rigoletto" Act I.

9.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News & News Commentary.

9.30 p.m.—London Relay—Talk: 'Scots Abroad'.

9.45 p.m.—Scottish Country Dance Orchestra.

10.00 p.m.—Musical Comedy Selections.

10.30 p.m.—Latest Dance Music.

11.00 p.m.—Close down.

TEN HOURS WITH TRAPPED GIRL

A LORRY driver tunnelled his way into a cellar where a girl of thirteen was trapped by bomb debris, and lay beside her for ten hours comforting her while other rescuers tried to clear the debris away.

The girl was Peggy Byng. She was the only survivor of a group trapped in the cellar during a heavy night raid on a south coast town.

'ROGUE' BROKE UP HOME, IS GAOLED

A former voluntary shelter marshal, stated to have caused the separation of a husband and wife because of his association with their 16½-year-old daughter, was at Croydon, sentenced to nine months' hard labour on charges of stealing £14 entrusted to him to buy steel helmets.

He was Harry Roland Clarke (39), of Warwick-way, Victoria, S.W. Detective-sergeant Batch said Clarke, who was divorced, acted as volunteer shelter marshal in Croydon, deputising at times for the district marshal.

Bought Ring

He became friendly with a 16½-year-old girl who was doing volunteer work at the shelter marshal's headquarters, and proposed marriage and bought her a wedding ring. The girl's father objected to the association, and finally the girl and her mother left the district to stay with Clarke in London. "Through this man's action, I am sorry to say that the mother and father of the girl, who had been happily married for 30 years, have parted, and there appears to be no hope of reconciliation," said Detective-sergeant Batch.

As Man And Wife

Clarke, he added, borrowed £50 from the girl's mother, and persuaded the girl to cable her uncle in Australia for £50, to be collected by them at Australia House in London. The uncle sent the money to the girl's home in Norbury, and Clarke and the girl called at Australia House, and were unlucky. "When I called at Clarke's

Peggy, who was pinned down by debris across her legs for four-teen hours, was described by a fireman as "one of the most marvellous kids I ever saw."

Her rescuer was George Palmer, known as Curly, a lorry driver.

Went Through Flames

With fire raging overhead, Curly tunnelled his way to get to the trapped people, though again and again he was driven back by smoke and flames.

Eventually he heard Peggy call out in answer to his shouts.

When Palmer reached Peggy, she put an arm round his neck and calmly chatted to him.

When the ambulance arrived to take Peggy to hospital, the rescue party called for "three cheers for Curly."

And the only words anyone could get out of Curly were: "I only did my job."

Father's Escape

Peggy had gone to the cellar with her mother, aged fifty, a sister aged nineteen, and two brothers, aged sixteen and fourteen.

Peggy was the only one who came out alive.

Mr. Isaac Byng, Peggy's father, told a reporter that he had put extra shores into the back cellar and left his family there while he went out for a few minutes.

"When I got back," he said, "I found my house down. If I had not gone out I should have been caught as well, and I now wish I had been."

"We were able to talk to mother and the children until there was an explosion which caused the fire, and after that we were only able to talk to Peggy."

Mr. Byng has five other children, all boys, who are serving in the Army. Two were home on leave, but were out of the house when it was hit.

address he and the girl were living as man and wife," said the detective.

Sergeant Batch said that in a letter which Clarke wrote to his mother, he stated, "I am married. Yes, I have done it again, but I have made no mistake this time. She's young, she is pretty, and she is well off. In fact, for the first time in his life, I have done myself a bit of good, financially." "I can best describe him as a plausible, but a rogue," said the detective.

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MACAO MEET EASTERN AT CAROLINE HILL TO-DAY

Visitors Much Stronger Than On Last Visit

Airosa Will Lead Visitors' Attack

By "Referee"

An improved Macao Football Association team will meet Eastern this afternoon at Caroline Hill at 4.45 p.m. and in view of the great improvement and strides made in Macao during the past year the visitors are expected to give Eastern a good fight.

The Visitors will be represented by their best available side and it is interesting to note that several players who came down last season for the Interport game were unable to obtain a place in the team.

At their last meeting in Macao they drew with Eastern when they shared four goals and Macao have also done well against Sing Tao and South China though against the latter team they were narrowly defeated.

To-morrow Macao are meeting South China at Caroline Hill at 4.45 p.m.

Airosa, who preferred hockey on the last visit which was played on the same day as the soccer Interport, will lead the attack and he is quite a useful soccer player. He is the most dangerous of the visiting forwards.

MACAO Carvalho, Cordova and Chifu, Sousa, Colaco and Magalhães, Ipatou, Airesa, Querrera, Lau Chon-kuan and Chong Han-kong.

Reserves: Mendes, Pimenta and Leandro.

EASTERN Lau Hui-hon, Ng Kee-cheung, S. Y. Yen, Qui Wing-tok, Hsu King-sing, Lo Wai-kuen, Fu Tsuk-ping, Cheung Kam-hoi, V. K. Hui, C. T. Tsao and Hau Ching-to.

SHIELD DRAW TO-MORROW

The draw for the Second Round of the Shield Competition will take place to-morrow at the Council of the Hong Kong Football Association.



SING TAO VISIT TO MANILA DEFINITE

Sing Tao are leaving for Manila on Monday, February 24, immediately after the Second Round of the Shield Competition and are returning by March 14.

They are arranging that their outstanding game against Club be played before their departure.

INTERPORT PRACTICE

Postponed from last Saturday due to rain, the Probable Interport team, selected for the forthcoming Interport hockey match with Macao, will now meet Indian Army in a practice game on the Club ground on Thursday, commencing at 5 p.m.

DISCARDED WINNING RACE TICKETS

I met a man recently who has a nice little sideline in turn-up winning Tote tickets, writes a correspondent from London.

He reckoned in normal times to pick up an average of £100 worth a season on racecourses.

You wouldn't think anyone who goes racing would discard a winning ticket, but here's a figure that will astonish you.

I am told by a leading Tote authority that since the machine began operations in mid-summer, 1929, unclaimed winnings amount to no less than £26,000.

The last Nottingham meeting supplies a good example. Many people who had failed to pick the winner of the second leg of the Tote Double (Steel Blade) threw away their tickets.

It turned out that nobody backed the double, and the machine paid out about £3 to those who had picked the winner of the first leg, Roman Chief.

Where It Goes

Where does the unclaimed \$20,000 go?

Being a statutory body, the Racecourse Betting Control Board are not allowed by law to do what they are quite prepared to do hand it over to a charity.

Their surplus must go to specified objects—such as needy racecourse executives and the breeding industry.

The Board has always impressed customers that not only should they make sure they have the right ticket before they leave the windows but that they should wait until the "all right" has been signalled before destroying their tickets.

Often officials are confronted with applications from backers who claim they have destroyed tickets in mistake. Whenever there is any evidence to support the claim, payment is made usually about a fortnight after the event, but obviously, the Board has to be careful otherwise they would be faced with an avalanche of false claims.

TO-DAY'S HOCKEY

The Quadrangular Tournament hockey match between Club and British Army will be played at Sookunpoo to-day, bully off at 4.45 p.m.

Following will represent the Club:—

Benwell, V. C. Bond and J. Goncalves; D. McLellan, W. A. Reed and N. B. M. Whitley; D. T. Smith, T. S. D. Whitley, A. E. P. Guest, E. Fowler and R. Soares.

SUNDAY'S HOCKEY

Following are the matches in the Hong Kong Hockey Association Tournament to be played on Sunday:—

10.30 A.M.
Police "A" v. Punjabs
5th A.A. "A" v. Nomads
2nd B.B. v. Engineers
Destroyers v. 5th A.A. "B"
4.00 P.M.
Police "B" v. University

ARMY SPORTLIGHT

By "SQUADDY"

Boxing
TO-MORROW evening at Nanking Barracks the first of this season's Army Boxing competitions will take place, when Combined Royal Artillery meet Middlesex in the Semi-Final of the Command Novices Team Boxing Competition. The first fight will be at 8.30 p.m.

This is the first time for a good many seasons that Royal Artillery have participated in this sport, and they have put together a strong team which is out to give the "Middles" a good run.

The winners of this match will meet Royal Scots in the Final on Thursday night.

Both Units have not yet decided on their teams for this competition and they will not be able to let their teams be known until after the weighing-in to-morrow morning.

Royal Scots have the strongest team of the three and should be able to pull this competition off for the fourth year in succession.

Middlesex Regt. are holding the Inter-Coy. Boxing Opens on February 26, 27 and 28 at Nanking Barracks to select their team for the Command Open Team Competition which will be held at Murray Barracks on April 8, 9 and 10.

Association Football
In the second division the Engineers and Royal Army Service Corps are fighting it out for League Honours with Sappers being three points ahead, and one game in hand of the Service Corps.

Service Corps are in the lead for the goal-breaking record with 87 goals scored this season so far, and the Sappers have scored 79. The Service Corps have another seven matches to play and the Sappers have eight.

Jennings, of Middlesex juniors, heads the list of goal scorers with 29 goals and is followed closely by Fox of Engineers who has scored 28 goals (both these players are of the junior league). Hendy, of Navy, heads the first Division with 19 goals and Jones, Engineers, heads the third division with 22 goals, and Sgt. Brackenbury second with 20 goals.

Middlesex Regt. this week are going all out to beat the Sing Tao football club in their First Division encounter, who have on two occasions been very lucky to beat the Die Hards this season.

Royal Scots, who have not been so fortunate this season will play the Navy on Thursday at Sookunpoo in the First Division, kick off 4.15 p.m., and Royal Scots juniors will play the 30th Hvy. Bty., R.A. in the Second Division, kick off 2.45 p.m.

Middlesex Regt.'s first eleven should have 18 points in the league table instead of 16 as shown in the week-end papers, these extra two points were awarded to them for the match which they should have played against Kowloon on January 18, with the latter failing to turn up. The first four teams in the First Division should read as follows:—

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Sing Tao	18	13	3	2	47	20	25
S. China	17	13	2	2	50	20	28
Eastern	17	12	3	2	53	27	27
Middlesex	16	8	2	6	33	35	18

This now gives the Middlesex a four point lead over Kowloon who are the nearest rivals in the league, and they should now be able to finish in this position.

We are glad to hear that L/Cpl. Bankier, who has been in hospital for the last two weeks suffering from slight concussion, which he received playing against the Chinese in the Lal Wab Cup, is now again out of hospital and will be playing between the sticks for the Army against the Civilians in the Final of the Lal Wab Cup next Sunday.

FOLLOWING have entered for the Cross Country runs which are being held on

Cross Country
March 4, starting from the Hong Kong Police Club ground, Boundary Street, Kowloon.

Entries for the Indian Units run are: Combined 8th and 12th Hvy. Regts., R.A. and 1st H.K. Regt., H.K.S.R.A.

Entries for the British Units run have not yet been received but the following are almost certain to enter a team.

Royal Scots, and the Middlesex Regt. have been training for this event during the last two or three weeks, and the Royal Engineers are going to enter a team this year. The Combined Small Units will also enter.

The Runs are open to the following Units.

BRITISH

Combined Royal Artillery, Fortress Royal Engineers, 2nd Bn. Royal Scots, 1st Bn. Middlesex Regt., Combined Small Units.

INDIAN

Combined 8th & 12th Hvy. Regts., R.A.

5th A.A. Regt., R.A., 1st H.K. Regt., H.K.S.R.A., 5/7 Rajput Regt., 2/14 Punjab Regt.

Combined Small Units (H.K. Mule Corps and the Indian Medical Corps).

There will be two separate trophies for these two runs, and the Annual Challenge Cup will be presented to the winning team of both runs which has the lowest aggregate number of points, and the other winning team will be presented with another Challenge Cup.

This is the first year that a truly representative Combined Small Units team has been entered for the Cross Country.

Prospective competitors are already training enthusiastically and have already had some enjoyable runs round the Island, and on the Mainland.

Small Units have one or two two dark horses and Sig. Lewis of the Royal Corps of Signals who finished second in the Colony Championships should assist them greatly.

Royal Air Force have one or two possible entries, chief of whom are Cpl. Palmer, and L.A.C. Brown.

In order to pick their final Team the Combined Small Units are arranging one or two competitive runs this month. They have already asked the Hong Kong University for a date, and have arranged for a run against the Middlesex Regt., on February 24.

Combined Small Units are also forming a team to enter the Command Athletic Meeting, and to assist them in selecting their final team they are holding a Small Units Individual Athletic meeting, suggested date being March 10. This should bring Small Units talent to the notice of the Army Athletic Selection Committee who have yet to select a team for the forthcoming team match with the Chinese.

WHERE ALL-IN STILL PAYS

Strange as it may appear, all-in wrestling is playing to 5,000 crowds at Belfast and often to capacity house in Blackpool. A party of young doctors never missed a show. They went for anatomical reasons — to see how far an arm, a leg, or a neck could be bent without breaking.

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Bob Feller Voted Player Of Year By Baseball Writers' Association

ROBERT WILLIAM Andrew Feller, or just plain Bob Feller, who can rear back and throw a baseball with more speed than any other moundman in baseball, is the player of the year — and maybe the player of the era, if it comes to that, writes George Kirksey from New York.

Officially, however, the New York chapter of the Baseball Writers' Association of America has voted the "player of the year" award for 1940 to the Cleveland fireballer and will present a plaque to him at their annual banquet.

Feller was voted the award over the year's two most valuable players, Hank Greenberg, in the American League and Frank McCormick in the National League and the veteran of the year, Freddy Fitzsimmons, Dodgers' grand old pitcher who recorded 16 victories and two defeats.

Greatest Pitcher

Having added poise, and control to his blazing fast ball, Feller has developed into the game's greatest pitcher. Although he's been pitching in organised baseball only five seasons, all of them with the Cleveland Indians, Feller already is beginning to draw comparisons with Walter Johnson, Grover Cleveland Alexander, Christy Mathewson and other pitching immortals. Oldtimers may shudder and say "Tommy Rot." There'll never be another Johnson or Mathewson, but when they do they ignore Feller's record achieved with a lively ball.

Despite the fact that he was just a callow youth off an Iowa farm and had to wrestle with the problem of a sore arm in the bargain, Feller hit the high road in his third season with the Indians at the age of 20.

Feller's records by years follow:

Year	W.	L.	Pct.	E.R.	Av.
1936	5	3	.625	3.34	
1937	8	7	.563	3.38	
1938	17	11	.607	.08	
1939	24	9	.727	2.85	
1940	27	11	.711	2.62	
Total	82	41	.667		

Feller's victories outnumber his defeats exactly 2 to 1, which is a pretty fair gait for a youngster who didn't reach his 22nd birthday until Nov. 3. For instance, Walter Johnson, in his first five years in the American League, was able to win only half his games, winning 40 and losing 40.

Struck Out 973

In five seasons Feller has struck out 973, sixty-three more than Johnson did over a like period. Bullet Bob has led the American League in strikeouts for the past three years, notching 261 last season. He was easily the dominant pitcher last season, leading his league in seven statistical departments, including most games won, earned runs, strikeouts, most innings pitched, most complete games, most games and most batters faced. He shared one of the

other two titles most shutouts, with two others, and failed only to win the percentage crown, finishing third to Schoolboy Rowe and Buck Newsom.

The only black mark on Feller's 1940 record was the fact that he didn't improve one whit all year. He pitched a no hit, no-run game in the opener against the White Sox, and never was able to get that good again. However, he pitched a one-hitter, a two-hitter, three three-hitters and two four-hitters.

And with it all Feller conducted himself with unassuming dignity even through the period of the rebellion against Oscar Vitt, in which he was a minor figure. Baseball has no greater figure than the blue-eyed smooth-skinned boy from Van Meter, Iowa.

Previous Winners

Previous winners of the New York Baseball Writers' "player of the year" award follow:

- 1931—Bill Terry.
- 1932—Lou Gehrig.
- 1933—Herb Pennock.
- 1934—Carl Hubbell.
- 1935—Dizzy Dean.
- 1936—Hank Greenberg.
- 1937—Tony Lazzeri.
- 1938—Joe DiMaggio.
- 1939—Jimmy Foxx.
- 1940—Bucky Walters.

SCHMELING REFUSED LEAVE

Max Schmeling, former heavyweight champion of the world, was recently denied a furlough by the Nazi army so that he might accept a challenge by Heinz Lazek, of Vienna, for the heavyweight title of Europe.

The army announced that Schmeling's "parachute training has reached a stage that demands extreme exertion and most intense concentration." This was interpreted in sports circles as meaning that extensive operations by Nazi parachute troops are in the offing.

Schmeling's wife said "Max will fight soon but not in the boxing ring."

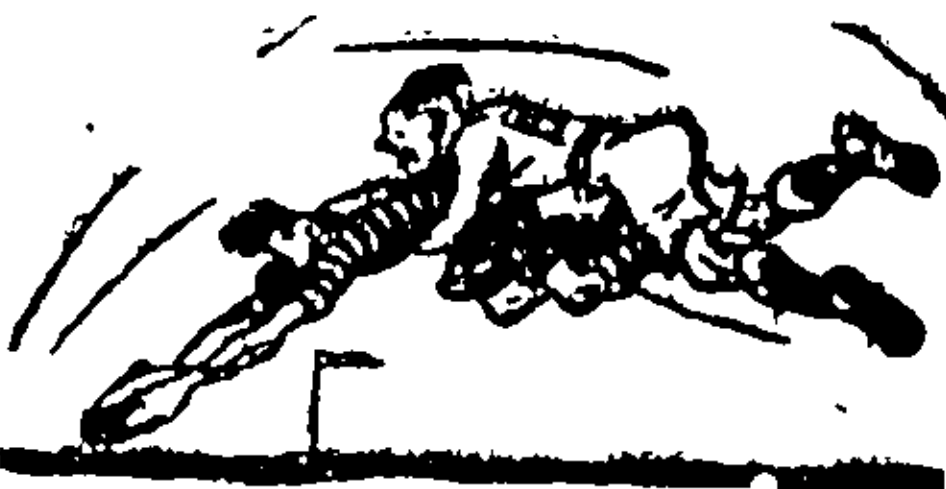
STABLES MOVED TO WILTSHIRE

RACING CIRCLES AT HOME are humming with reports of a surprise move by one of its most distinguished owners, Lord Glanely.

He is said to be sending a number of his best young horses to Wiltshire to be trained by Joe Law-son.

JOCKEY CLUB DECIDES TO HOLD MEETINGS

The Jockey Club, at its meeting last month, decided to run most of the principal races during the first half of the present season, thus, the rumours that there would be no racing in England this year, are not correct. Among the principal races are The Grand National at Liverpool and the Derby at Epsom. — Fleet News.



GUNNERS' RUGBY TEAM

In their rugby match against Royal Scots at 3 p.m. to-day at Sookunpoo, Royal Artillery will be represented by:

2/Lieut. Fairclough; Sergt. March, Capt. Skipwith, Gnr. Keeble, L/Bdr. Richards; Capt. Hook, Gnr. Dobbinson; 2/Lieut. Bompas, Sergt. Hicks, Gnr. Cook; L/Bdr. Evans, 2/Lieut. Delderfield; L/Bdr. MacDermott, 2/Lieut. Eddison, 2/Lieut. Heath.

Reserves:—Gnr. Turner, Gnr. Easterbrook, 2/Lieut. Claque.

Richards Fans Interested

If the change-over takes place an interesting sequel could be the revival of an old and successful association between Gordon Richards and Lord Glanely when the champion jockey's commitments make it possible for him to ride Manton horses.

Gordon won "Legers" for Lord Glanely on Singapore and Chulmleigh and the Oaks on Rose of England.

But it is not only Gordon fans who will be watching with interest developments in the present situation.

If it happens it does not, of course, mean Mr. Jarvis is retiring from training, but as he is not actively concerned in National Hunt sport he is unlikely to turn out any runners until the return of Flat racing next spring.

It is hoped the National Hunt Committee take a census of owners' and trainers' opinions on the advisability of centralising racing this winter, and, if possible, extending it more to Southern tracks.

Not Only Instance

Lord Glanley's decision to migrate his racers from Newmarket towards the West country is not an isolated instance of this move westward, and we shall hear more of animals going West and North if the National Hunt Committee and Jockey Club feel it is incumbent on them to continue keeping their fixtures from the South.

In the opinion of one race follower every Saturday and most Mondays should be utilised as fixture dates, and Cheltenham should take the place in National Hunt sport held by Newmarket on the flat and have a fair sprinkling of mid-week fixtures, each of two days.

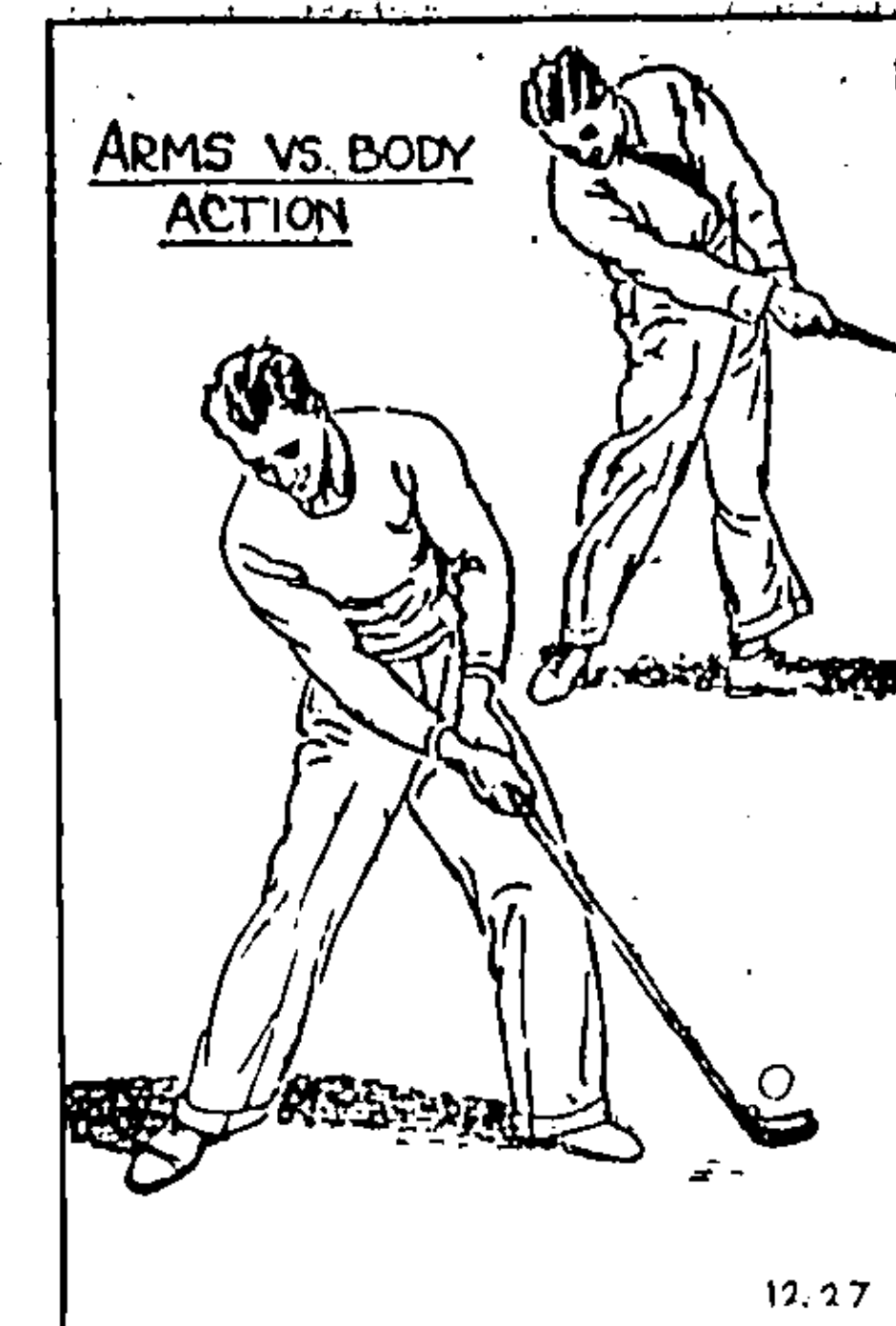
There is no doubt about the popularity of steeplechasing at Cheltenham, where the attendance at a recent meeting was the most satisfactory and noteworthy since the restart of sport under either code.

'VARSITY "B" AGAIN BEAT CHINESE "Y"

Chinese Y.M.C.A. lost to University "B" 3-6 in the "A" Division of the Badminton League at Bridges Street last night.

C. Au and H. Koh (Chinese "Y") beat M. P. Yoong and Y. P. Yoong 21-8 lost to C. K. Lee and S. L. Yong 12-21 lost to K. B. Low and S. Amplavannar 14-21 F. Koh and C. Y. Yung (Chinese "Y") lost to Yoong and Yoong 0-21 lost to Lee and Yong 21-24 beat Low and Amplavannar 23-21 T. C. Lau and P. H. Wong (Chinese "Y") lost to Yoong and Yoong 10-21 lost to Lee and Yong 11-21 beat Low and Amplavannar 21-12

GRAPHIC GOLF



ARM VS. ARM AND BODY ACTION

By BEST BALL

From the above illustrations it is not difficult to view the power and precision which comes from employing body motion as compared to the use of arm and hand action only. The lower player, with his feet so wide apart as to prevent body turn or any weight transference, is solely dependent for his clubhead velocity on the momentum his arms and wrists can generate. Furthermore the swing is such that the arc of the clubhead comes down abruptly and rises abruptly, making it necessary that the ball be hit at the lowest point for the shot to be successful.

Jimmy Thomson, upper figure, on the other hand uses the full power of his body, in addition to hand and arm action. This body turn allows a rather flat arc, the clubhead travelling close to the ground and able to contact the ball at any point with considerable success. Because of the combined body and arm action, the clubhead is travelling with great momentum when it contacts the ball.

Next Article:—Gaining Good Wrist Action.



YACHTING RESULTS

The 5th Cruiser Championship race of the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club sailed yesterday resulted as follows:

FIRST DIVISION				
Yacht	Finished	Cor.	Pts.	
Donna (E. Cock)	15.37.39	15.19.45	29	
Norena (P. C. M. Sedgwick)	15.36.47	15.36.47	31	
Yehonala (G. W. Bearman)	16.28.03½	16.00.51½	21	
Red Rover (R. W. Bateman)	16.50.30	16.07.27	16	
SECOND DIVISION				
Evolene (Major G. E. Neve)	17.36.42	16.15.01	22	
Tyrone (B. Herschend)	19.28.45	17.13.43	31	
Vand I (J. B. Colls)	19.03.44	17.49.54	9	
4-TONNERS				
Tern (J. L. Anderson)	17.34.54	16.11.30	26	
Typhoon (D. Campbell)	18.33.40	16.46.40	32	
Curlew (P. Clarke)	19.10.23	17.22.01	20	
Monsoon (B. S. Carter)	20.06.25	17.59.54	8	

CIVIL SERVICE TEAMS

The following will represent the Civil Service C.C. at League cricket on Saturday:

1st XI v Indian R.C. (Home):—J. E. Richardson (Capt.), K. J. Atwell, F. Baker, W. H. Colledge, T. V. N. Fortescue, B. C. K. Hawkins, R. H. Griffiths, D. McLellan, A. E. Perry, N. Whitley, and A. M. J. Wright.
2nd XI v Kowloon C.C. (Away):—H. E. Strange (Capt.), G. Ainslie, J. Barrow, H. F. Harper, F. E. Lawrence, J. Mitchell, J. F. MacGowan, T. Lockhart, N. L. Smith, G. Stone, A. Watson, and W. G. Davidson.

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RELATIONS WITH RUMANIA BROKEN OFF

Black-Out Restrictions In Bucharest Tightened

DARLAN APPOINTED PETAIN'S SUCCESSOR

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Reports from Vichy state that Marshal Henri Petain has appointed Admiral Darlan as his successor in case of his disability to continue his duties as head of the Vichy Government. — International News Service.

Note Handed To Antonescu On Situation

IT WAS OFFICIALLY announced in Bucharest yesterday evening that the British Minister in Rumania, Sir Reginald Hoare, had presented the Rumanian Government at mid-day a Note demanding his passports.

Sir Reginald hopes to leave with his full staff of fifty in the first available boat on or after February 15.

It is also confirmed in London that the British Government has decided to withdraw the British Minister in Bucharest.

Official circles in London point out that German troops began to arrive in Rumania some months ago.

At this time, the head of the Rumanian Government informed the British Minister that these troops had come to Rumania in order to instruct the Rumanian Army in the modern methods of warfare.

This instruction had no doubt been imparted, but subsequent developments showed that the German High Command was building up in Rumania all the elements of an Expeditionary Force and had concentrated at various strategical points large

quantities of munitions and oil fuel.

As Military Base

Rumanian territory is thus being used by Germany as a military base in the furtherance of her plan for the prosecution of the war.

These steps are being taken without any word of dissent from the Rumanian Government.

In these circumstances, the position of the British Legation has become impossible and Sir Reginald Hoare has been instructed to withdraw his mission and Consular officers under his control. This withdrawal will take place within the next few days.—Reuter

No Action In London By Rumania Yet

The Rumanian Legation in London has hitherto received no instructions from Bucharest about withdrawing from London.

Reuter's diplomatic correspondent learns that the decision whether the Legation is to withdraw naturally lies with the Rumanian Government and if General Antonescu, the Rumanian Premier, instructs the Rumanian Charge d'Affaires to ask for his passports there will be no difficulty about the departure of the Rumanian Mission.—Reuter.

Stricter Black-Out

Stricter black-out precautions are to be observed in Bucharest, state reports reaching London.

All electric signs, brightly lit shop windows, and lights showing in houses, are strictly forbidden. Citizens are advised to get a supply of torches and candles in case of an emergency.

The Rumanian Air Force, according to an American correspondent in Ankara, is now 100 per cent. under Nazi control.

Information received in London states that German soldiers stationed in Rumania are being issued with civilian clothes and sent to Bulgaria as tourists.

U.S. IN EARNEST

In Washington yesterday, Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, said at his press conference with reference to Mr. Winston Churchill's plea "give us the tools and we will finish the job," that he and others were earnestly urging full production with all possible speed so that, in accordance with Government's primary policy of safety for the United States, the maximum military supplies would be produced for the United States and Great Britain.—Reuter.

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Senate Approves Winant

The United States Senate has unanimously confirmed the nomination of John Winant, as United States Ambassador to Britain.

The appointment of Mr. Alexander Biddle, former Ambassador to Poland, as United States representative to the exiled Governments of Poland, Belgium, the

Netherlands and Norway was also unanimously approved, with a number of other diplomatic changes. — Reuter.



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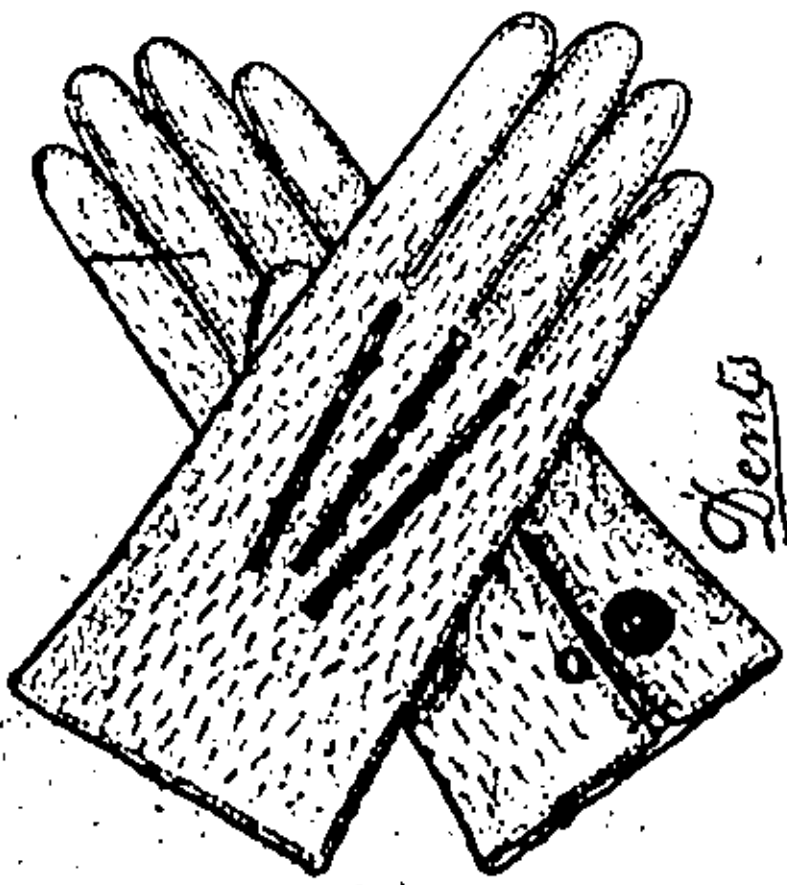
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HITLER SCHEMING CO-ORDINATED ATTACK

FRANCO, SUNER IN ITALY

According to reports received from Spain in London last night, General Franco and Senor Sener, the Spanish Foreign Minister, are to meet Herr Hitler and von Ribbentrop.

A message received in New York from Rome states that General Franco and Senor Sener arrived yesterday at San Remo, in Italy. — Reuter.

Britain Watching Mediterranean And The Far East

ENDORSEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER IN HIS BROADCAST ADDRESS OF THE C.I.G.S., SIR JOHN DILL'S WARNING THAT STRATEGIC, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL STRESSES IN EUROPE MAY FORCE HITLER TO ATTEMPT INVASION IN THE NEAR FUTURE, HAS FOCUSED ATTENTION IN THE PRESS ON THE DIPLOMATIC AS WELL AS THE MILITARY ADVENTURES IN WHICH THE NAZIS ARE ENGAGED IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD.

Belief is growing that if the invasion is, in fact, attempted, it will not be an isolated adventure.

Developments in Italy make it increasingly clear that Germany, with her growing grip on Sicily, recognises the importance of balancing a movement in Northern Europe with an attempt to disturb Britain's supremacy in the Mediterranean.

In the phase of greater violence which, in the view of Mr. Churchill, the war is entering, there is no longer any serious attempt on the part of Germany to disguise the fact that preparations for the movement of German troops into or through the Balkans is contemplated.

Developments in Rumania have reached a stage at which the withdrawal of the British Minister at Bucharest has been deemed necessary, and the significance of Mr. Churchill's statement that Bulgaria's airfields are being occupied by German ground personnel, needs no emphasis.

Contemporaneously with these developments, German efforts to make use of Japan to aid the Nazi plans are being persistently pressed, regardless of the fact that if her Far Eastern Axis partner accedes to the pressure it will spell ruin for Japan.

Japan's Truculence

There is abundant evidence that these efforts in the diplomatic field are directed towards urging a friendlier relationship between Russia and Japan as the preliminary to a Japanese drive southward.

Although in London it is well known that the more sober elements in Japan are deeply disturbed at the prospects, the truculence of the attitude of certain Ministers towards the United States and Britain has, at times since the signing of the tripartite agreement, displayed a recklessness which suggests that the full dangers of the situation are not fully appreciated in Tokyo. It is a situation which is being

NEW POINT OF ATTACK IN ERITREA

The British occupation of Mersa Taclai and Korara in Eritrea was announced in a Middle East General Headquarters communique.

Meanwhile pressure on enemy positions about Keren is being continued.

South African troops have now advanced 50 miles inside Italian territory in Southern Abyssinia in the Hobek area.

The communique adds that the clearing up of areas up to El Agheila in Libya is proceeding satisfactorily and that intensive activity in Italian Somaliland continues. — Reuter.

On The Sea Coast

MERSA TACLA, WHICH HAS BEEN OCCUPIED BY BRITISH FORCES, IS A VILLAGE ON THE RED SEA COAST, FORTY MILES FROM THE BORDER BETWEEN THE SUDAN AND ERITREA. KARORA, A SMALL TOWN, LIES INSIDE THE ERITREAN BORDER FORTY MILES INLAND.

It is pointed out in London that this advance into Eritrea from the North would appear to constitute a new movement as yesterday's communique was the first to mention any movement in this direction. — Reuter.

R.A.F. FORMATIONS SWEEP THE INVASION PORTS

TWO FORMATIONS of R.A.F. bombers accompanied by a strong force of fighters carried out an offensive sweep over Dunkirk and Boulogne yesterday. Bombs were dropped on docks at Dunkirk.

According to an early report, two enemy fighters were destroyed by one British squadron.

The R.A.F. air raids on Calais docks proved even more successful and bombs were showered on many parts of the harbour according to later official details.

The pilot of one aircraft said he watched bombs explode and saw bursts lifting clear out of the water, while other pilots said they saw the bottoms of some small craft as they overturned and fell back completely wrecked.

A direct hit was obtained on a goods train on a railway near the docks. — Reuter.

One Fighter Lost

Only one British fighter is missing from the aircraft which participated in the offensive sweeps over northern France yesterday.

This was revealed by an Air Ministry communique dealing with the operations, which says that though the fullest reports are not yet available it is known that two enemy fighters were destroyed. — Reuter.

twenty-four hours.

Reports from Athens reaching London state that two of these counter-attacks took place west of the River Drin where Italian infantry had been ordered to penetrate the Greek lines but failed owing to the violent Greek fire, leaving behind many dead and wounded.

Another of the counter-attacks was attempted in the region of the Klissura sector. — Reuter.

Heavy Albania Fighting

Another Italian counter-attack against newly won positions in the Klissura area has been driven back with heavy losses to the Italians, according to the Greek press, reporting a military statement broadcast by Athens yesterday.

The statement says: "Like previous attempts, this attack was completely smashed and the Italians beaten back in great disorder."

It adds: "The situation on the Albanian front continues to be highly satisfactory. Further vantage points have been secured by Greek forces, particularly on the Central front." — Reuter.

Four Attempts

Four Italian counter-attacks have been repulsed in the last

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DEFENCE OF BRITAIN

Preparation For Defence Against Gas Attacks



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VICHY CABINET RE-SHUFFLE

According to a despatch from Vichy to the official German news agency quoting well-informed circles, a complete reshuffle of the Vichy Cabinet will not take place before the middle of the week.—Reuter.

EX-SOVIET ARMY CHIEF FOUND SHOT DEAD

General Krivitsky, who has been found shot dead in Washington is stated to have been once Chief of the Secret Police in Soviet Russia, according to Mr. Louis Waldman, an attorney.

The general is said to have been going under the name of Samuel Ginsberg.

Mr. Waldman said he had obtained this information from detectives who told him General Krivitsky shot himself, but the attorney did not believe this.

General Krivitsky, he said, had been cooperating with the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation.

He came to the United States several years ago and later visited England but returned to America last October.

General Krivitsky gave evidence in October 1939, before the Congressional Committee on un-American activities.

On that occasion Krivitsky had said that he had broken with Stalin because he had refused to take active part in the purge in the Communist Party during 1936/37.—Reuter.

Possibility Of Secret Weapon

PREPARATIONS FOR THE DEFENCE OF BRITAIN AGAINST INVASION TAKE FULL ACCOUNT OF THE POSSIBLE USE OF GAS BY THE GERMAN ARMY AND AIR FORCE AND STEPS ARE TO BE TAKEN TO COUNTERACT THE ATTACK WHICH WOULD COME CHIEFLY FROM THE SKIES AND SEAS.

Britain has pledged herself under the Geneva Protocol of 1925 not to use gas unless this is first inflicted on her in war.

Thus the initiative in its use must remain with Germany who introduced this weapon in the last war.

Germany also pledged herself not to use it again but may follow the example of her Axis partner, Italy, in the conquest of Abyssinia.

The Germans are not believed to possess any new gas.

Indeed, scientists consider no new gas which can be used in chemical warfare exists. What would be new would be some hitherto unforeseen method of using this weapon.

Wholesale use of gas to terrorise the civilian population is hardly likely for this is a weapon which recoils on the user like a boomerang.

Safety Of Masks

Complete safety against all poison gases is provided by the service gas-mask and the civilian gas-mask, the only difference between the two being that the former is designed to stand up to field conditions.

Also statistics show that even in the last war the percentage of fatal casualties and permanent disabilities from gas was lower than from any other cause.—Reuter.

ST. SOPHIA CATHEDRAL BOMBED

A message from Athens reports that the fifth-century Cathedral of Saint Sophia at Salonika was damaged by an air-raid on Sunday.

The Cathedral is to be repaired immediately, following orders issued by the Greek Prime Minister, M. Korizis.

One part of the building has almost entirely collapsed but the mosaics of the cupola have not suffered much.

The British Consul at Salonika was present when crowds massed around the Cathedral after the all-clear signal had been given and demonstrated against this "act of vandalism."—Reuter.

FROZEN ASSETS IN AMERICA

Foreign assets valued at 4,369,000,000 U.S. dollars are "frozen" in the United States, according to the U.S. Treasury estimate.

These assets belong to countries which are completely or partially occupied by Germany, with the exception of 20,000,000 dollars, belonging to Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, which are now incorporated in the Soviet Union.

Figures given for other countries are:

France, U.S.\$1,593,000,000, the Netherlands U.S.\$1,819,000,000, Denmark U.S.\$92,000,000, Norway U.S.\$175,000,000, Belgium U.S.\$760,000,000, Luxemburg U.S.\$48,000,000 and Rumania U.S.\$53,000,000.—Reuter.

GREEK REJOICING

MR. CHURCHILL'S SPEECH, FOLLOWING GREAT BRITAIN'S SUCCESS AT BENGHAZI AND AT GENOA, HAS SENT A WAVE OF ENCOURAGEMENT THROUGHOUT GREECE, SAYS A MESSAGE FROM ATHENS.

The Greek newspaper "Estia" says the speech contained important facts, disclosing a most hopeful situation in the Mediterranean.

Mr. Churchill's disdained words about Mussolini are echoed by tens of millions of free men and will be repeated even in Italy.—Reuter.

QUIET TRADING ON STOCK MARKET

A general strength in gilt-edged securities and Indian irredeemable stocks on the mobilisation of Indian dated issues provided the feature of to-day's market on the London Stock Exchange.

Elsewhere, the market was quiet, the early buoyancy following Mr. Churchill's broadcast being mostly not fully maintained owing to the quietness of trading.

Industrial issues were narrowly irregular and home-rails attracted small buying, while among foreign bonds, Belgian and Japanese issues improved.

Wall Street was firm.—Reuter.

Military Governor Of Cyrenaica Appointed

DEATH SENTENCE QUASHED

Mrs Dorothy Pamela O'Grady, who was previously sentenced to death on charges under the Treachery Act yesterday heard Lord Caldecote, in the Court of Appeal, announce that conviction quashed but, on other charges, sentence of 14 years' penal servitude was imposed.

Both the trial at Winchester and the appeal were held in camera. — Reuter.

N.Z.'S WAR WORK

The manufacture of munitions has become an important part of New Zealand's war work, said Mr. Sullivan, New Zealand Minister of Supplies yesterday.

Production covers Bren-Gun carriers, trench-mortars and bombs, including high explosives, steel-helmets and small arms ammunition.

Minesweepers are being built and an improved type will soon be produced.

After the report of British experts, it is expected that Britain would establish programmes suitable for New Zealand's fulfilment.

The New Zealand Government is conducting an intensive operations scheme for the training of munition workers. — Reuter.

FIREWOOD PRICE CONTROL?

The retail price of firewood soared to a new record height this morning when only 22 cabbies could be obtained for one dollar.

Government, the "China Mail" was given to understand this morning, is about to adopt effective measures to remedy the situation.

Wholesale and retail prices of this everyday necessity may be fixed by Government within the next few days.

FISHERMEN AMONG THE MINES

Five fishermen appeared before the Marine Magistrate, Commander T. C. Stiff, this morning, for anchoring in the Tathong Channel Minefield.

Defendants were arrested by the naval authorities and handed over to the police.

Commander Stiff said it was a serious offence and pointed out that charts showing the prohibited areas had been issued for a long time.

Defendants were fined \$20 or three weeks' imprisonment.

SIR MAITLAND WILSON TAKES CONTROL

IT IS OFFICIALLY announced in Cairo that Lieut.-General Sir Maitland Wilson has taken over the command of Cyrenaica, as Military Governor and General Officer Commanding in Chief.

General Wilson has issued a proclamation calling on the population for discipline and to obey the orders of the military authorities.

A political branch has been set up in Cairo at General Headquarters to deal with all questions affecting occupied enemy territory and its administration.

The appointment of General Wilson and the creation of a political branch of G.H.Q. means that the establishment of an administration for occupied territory is in accordance with International Law.

It is pointed out in Cairo that the military occupation has no bearing on subsequent disposal of the territory or rectification of frontiers which are matters to be decided at the peace conference.

Command Relinquished

To take over his new appointment, General Wilson has relinquished command of the British troops in Egypt.

His successor is likely to be announced in a few days.

Under General Wavell, General Wilson has taken an active part in the British drive into Libya. — Reuter.

ITALIANS DENY ATTACK

IN REPLY TO THE UNITED STATES' PROTEST AGAINST THE BOMBING OF THE AMERICAN MISSION IN THE ANGLO-EGYPTIAN SUDAN LAST AUGUST, THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS DENIED THAT THE ATTACK WAS MADE BY ITALIAN PLANES. IT WAS ANNOUNCED IN WASHINGTON LAST NIGHT.

It declares that, according to a report received by the Italian East African High Command, "the bombardment of the Mission, as broadcast by the British, is insofar as we are concerned, unfounded." — Reuter.

ROYAL NAVY PARALYSING ITALIANS

According to the naval correspondent of the Swedish paper "Stockholm Tidningen," the British fleet is the foremost cause in the apparent paralysis of Italy.

The correspondent declares that it is not known whether the Italian Fleet and Air Force have taken measures to deal with attacks like that on Genoa. But it is given that one cause of impression of the paralysis gained during the last three months is probably the shortage of fuel and the foremost cause is the evidence of the British Fleet. — Reuter.

VICHY'S NATIONAL COUNCIL

The new French consultative body, the National Council, will, according to "Noeuvelliste de Lysen," meet for its inaugural session at Lyons, but will later continue its work at Vichy where it will be in closer touch with the different ministries.

The newspaper understands that at the first meeting, Councilors will agree on the list of names to be submitted to the head of the State with a view to the establishment of a Bureau for the Assembly.

The list will be immediately communicated. — Reuter.

DARING THEFT AT MAGISTRACY

The pockets he could have "picked" at the Kowloon Magistracy yesterday were many, but he turned his nose up and ignored them all.

Whether he was a modern Robin Hood, taking only from the well-to-do, or just after something bigger is not known.

Anyway, he passed through the entrance of the Magistracy, picked his way through the crowds, apparently never even casting a glance at their pockets and walked in the direction of Mr. K. M. A. Barnett's office while this Magistrate was engaged in Court.

Nobody saw him enter the Magistrate's office and the loss of a watch, valued at \$157, was only discovered when Mr. Barnett returned.

The police were immediately informed, and the usual check was made at pawnshops.

The watch was later recovered from one of the pawnshops in the Yaumati District not far from the Magistracy, but the culprit has not yet been traced.

LITTLE NAZI AIR ACTIVITY

An Air Ministry and Ministry of Home Security communiqué states: "There was very little enemy activity over this country during daylight yesterday. No report of damage or casualties has been received. — British Wireless.



The Lord Mayor of London recently paid a visit to the East End of London where he was met and escorted around the damaged areas, by the Mayors of the districts. Photo shows the Lord Mayor (left) chatting to the children of the district. — (Copyright, Fox.)

GIFTS TO RAID DISTRESS FUND

The Lord Mayor of Brisbane has sent another £5,000 to the Lord Mayor of London's National Air Raid Distress Fund, bringing the total of Brisbane's contributions to £112,200.

Other gifts included £1,000 from Cape Town, £500 from the Philippine Islands, £247 from Panama, and £100 each from St. James, Manitoba, and the Government and people of Port Moresby, Papua. The total of the Fund is now £2,117,000. — British Wireless.

U.S. IN EARNEST

In Washington yesterday, Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, said at his press conference with reference to Mr. Winston Churchill's plea "give us the tools and we will finish the job," that he and others were earnestly urging full production with all possible speed so that, in accordance with Government's primary policy of safety for the United States, the maximum military supplies would be produced for the United States and Great Britain. — Reuter.

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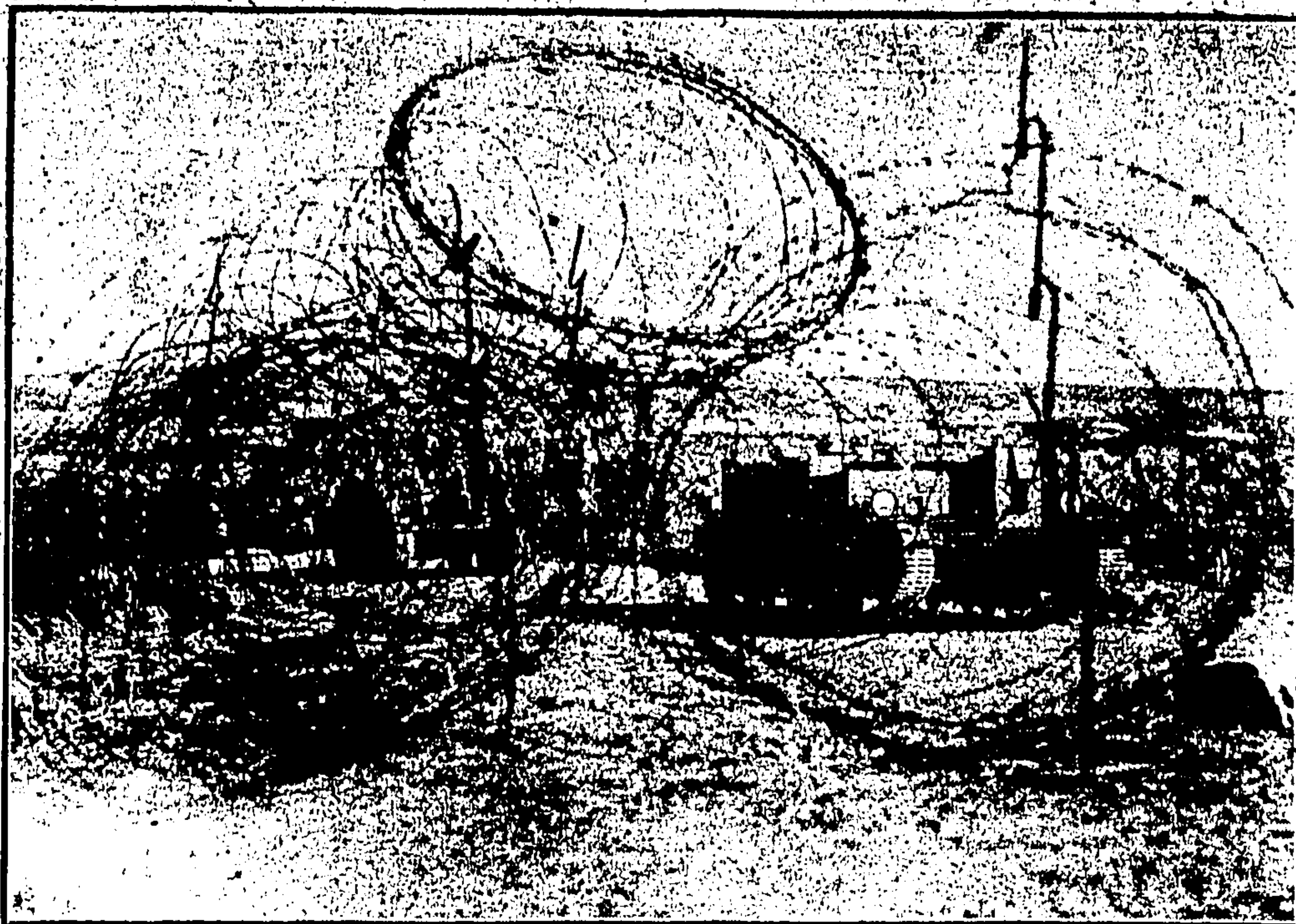
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A new-angle view of Bren carriers passing along a road and photographed through barbed wire during defence. (Copyright, Fox).

Extensive R.A.F. Raids In Middle East

ATTACKS ON CALATO and Maritza on the Island of Rhodes and a successful night raid on Tripoli were recorded in yesterday's communique from Royal Air Force Headquarters.

A Middle East communique says on the night of Sunday-Monday, aerodromes at Calato and Maritza were raided by bombers of the R.A.F.

Bombs were dropped on a number of aircraft dispersed on the landing ground at the former place, causing heavy explosions and two large fires, believed to be enemy aircraft.

Aircraft from the Fleet Air Arm, the same night carried out a successful raid on Tripoli, bombs falling on a seaplane station where a hangar was set on fire.

In Italian East Africa, continued support was given to the army offensive. Keren was raided repeatedly and much damage was caused to stores and motor transport.

Dogfight At Asmara

At Asmara, South African fighters encountered a number of Italian 'planes, one enemy machine being shot down and several others badly damaged. Meanwhile, R.A.F. bombers raided the town of Asmara.

When enemy aircraft attacked the occupied aerodrome at Agordat, one Italian 'plane was shot down by anti-aircraft fire. Further, South African bombers effectively attacked Badana, Afmuda and the fort at Todenying.

In Albania

In Albania, a small formation of R.A.F. fighters, on patrol in the Kelekre area on Sunday, intercepted a large number of enemy fighters. In the ensuing engagement, four Italian 'planes were shot down and several others so badly damaged that it is unlikely that they returned to their base.

One British pilot had to abandon his aircraft but made a successful parachute descent and returned unharmed to the squadron.

Malta Raid

During the same night, a considerable force of enemy aircraft raided Malta.

Damage was caused to private property and a few civilians were injured.

Two German aircraft were shot down and others probably damaged.

From all these extensive operations, four British aircraft failed to return but one pilot is safe. Reuter.

MR. MENZIES TOURS WAR FRONT

The Australian Prime Minister, Mr. R. G. Menzies, has returned from a thirty-six hour visit to the Bardia area in which he was accompanied by General Sir Thomas Blancy, Officer Commanding the Australian Forces Overseas.

The party travelled in an R.A.F. 'plane and flew low over the battle zone, enabling Mr. Menzies to follow the whole story of the brilliant campaign.

Mr. Menzies' visit was marked by an atmosphere of friendliness and good cheer.—Reuter.

DEBT LIMIT INCREASED

By vote of the House of Representatives yesterday, the Federal debt limit was increased to sixty-five thousand million dollars and the Federal Tax exemptions were removed from future issues of Federal Government obligations.—Reuter.

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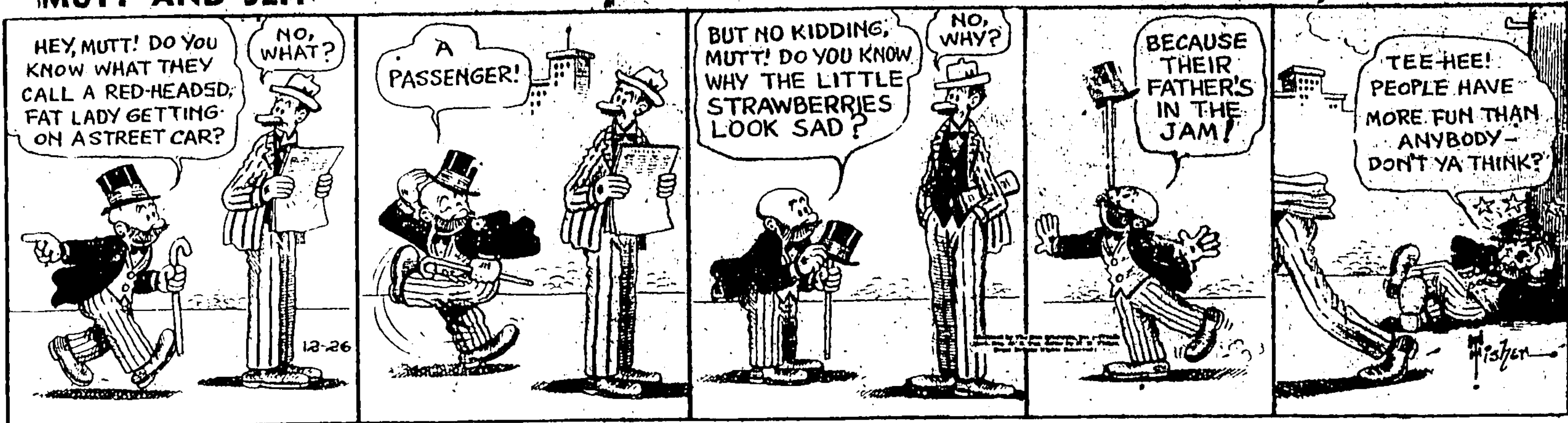


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Cecilia Parker

FRI. "NINE DAYS A QUEEN" Cedric Hardwicke
SAT. Nova Pittsman

MUTT AND JEFF

By BUD FISHER



TORPEDOING OF GERMAN DESTROYER

Details are now given of an air operation announced yesterday morning in which a German destroyer was torpedoed.

The Air Ministry communique states: "In the course of reconnaissance and patrol operations by aircraft of the Coastal Command yesterday, attacks were made with torpedoes on enemy destroyers off the Norwegian coast. One enemy vessel was hit and ships.

A single aircraft of the Bomber Command carried out an attack on the oil tanks at Flushing, the docks at Antwerp and other objectives in enemy-occupied territory.

In the early hours of this morning, forty aircraft of the same Command bombed enemy bases on the coast of North-West Germany.

From all these operations, one of our aircraft is missing.—British Wireless.

PILOTS ARRIVE FOR SPRING ATTACK

ONE OF THE LARGEST batches of air trainees from Australia, New Zealand and Canada, were welcomed in Britain yesterday by Lord Cranborne (Dominions Secretary) the High Commissioner for Canada, Mr. Vincent Massey, the High Commissioner for Australia, Mr. S. M. Bruce, the High Commissioner for New Zealand, Mr. W. J. Jordan, and Captain Harold Balfour (Under-Secretary of State for Air).

The contingent from Canada included British who had been trained in that country under the Empire Air Training Scheme and Australians and New Zealanders whose training had nearly been completed in their own countries and who, with the rest of this contingent, will be posted direct to an operational training unit.

Many are pilots and all are members of air crews.

Lord Cranborne, welcoming them said: "You have come just at the right moment, because by all appearances, the Spring campaign is nearly upon us and I am

quite certain you would not wish to miss that.

Noble Company

"You have come to join a very noble company and I am sure you will add to it further lustre and fame.

"You have been trained under the Empire Air Training Scheme which is not only one of the most impressive examples of Imperial cooperation but also one of the most important, for even though it is still uncertain that air power alone can win this war, it is certain that it must play a vital part in winning it.

"That has been made clear by our experience in Dunkirk, in the Battle of Britain and in the recent weeks of Libya.

"I can imagine nothing could be more exasperating or discouraging to Hitler and his collaborators than to see this steady, increasing and inexorable wave of the finest pilots in the world coming steadily across the Atlantic to our shores, not only to defend this island, but to strike continued and increasing blows at vital parts of Germany." — British Wireless.

THE LORD MAYOR HAD A SECRET

For a year Alderman J. A. Longdon was Lord Mayor of Sheffield.

For a year he hid under a smile his secret—that when he took office his employers sent him a letter wishing him success, and giving him the sack after thirty years as a silversmith.

Sheffield people declared they had never had a more hard-working Lord Mayor.

When he gave up office, he revealed his secret. He told a reporter:—

"I want a job now, but feel that my type of work—I make hand-made presentation cutlery—is somewhat restricted."

Mr. D. A. Palmer, principal of the firm of Joseph Rodgers and Son, Ltd., said:

"It is true that Alderman Longdon worked for us. I have heard that he made the statement to which you refer, but I refuse to make any comment upon it until I have conferred with other people."

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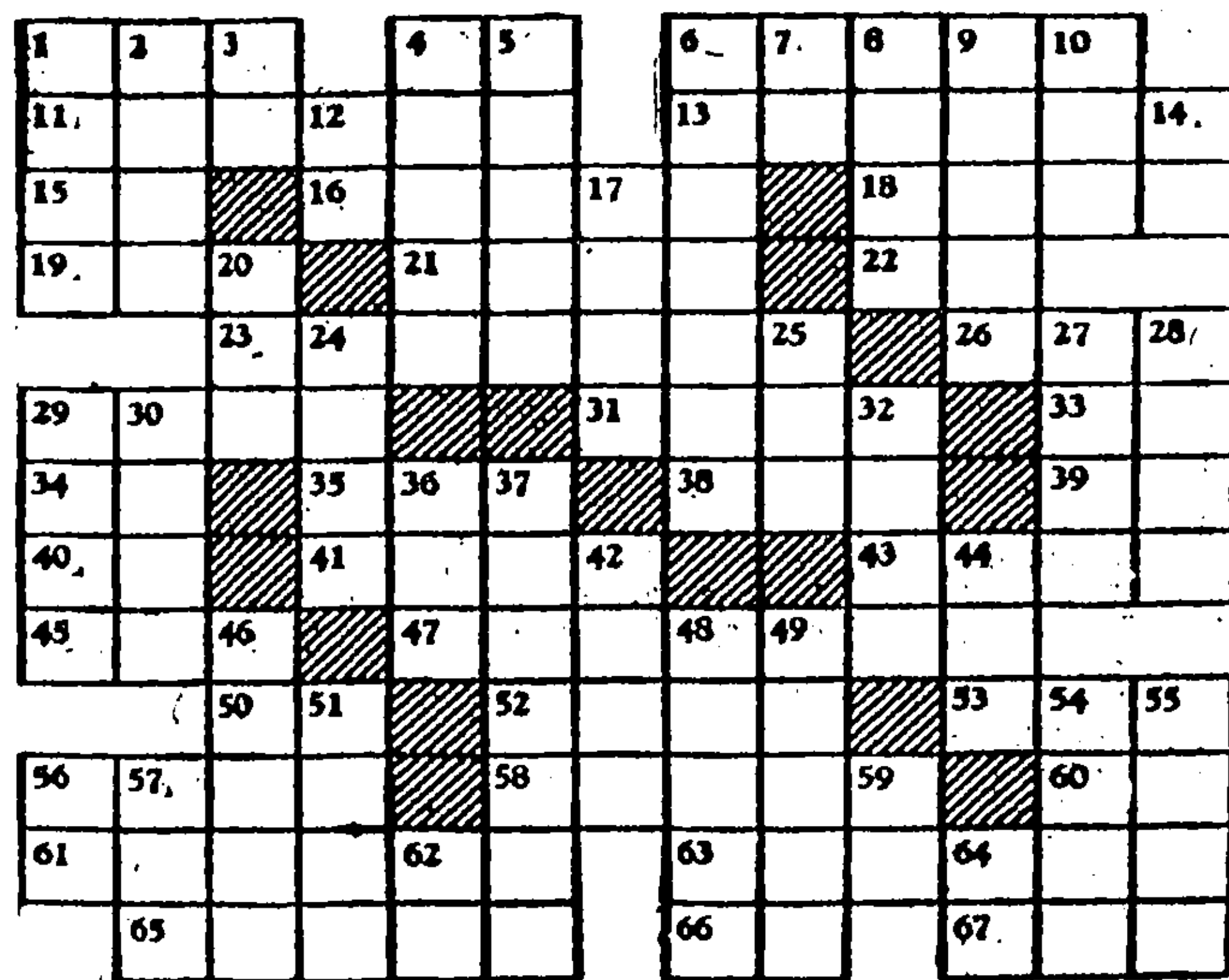
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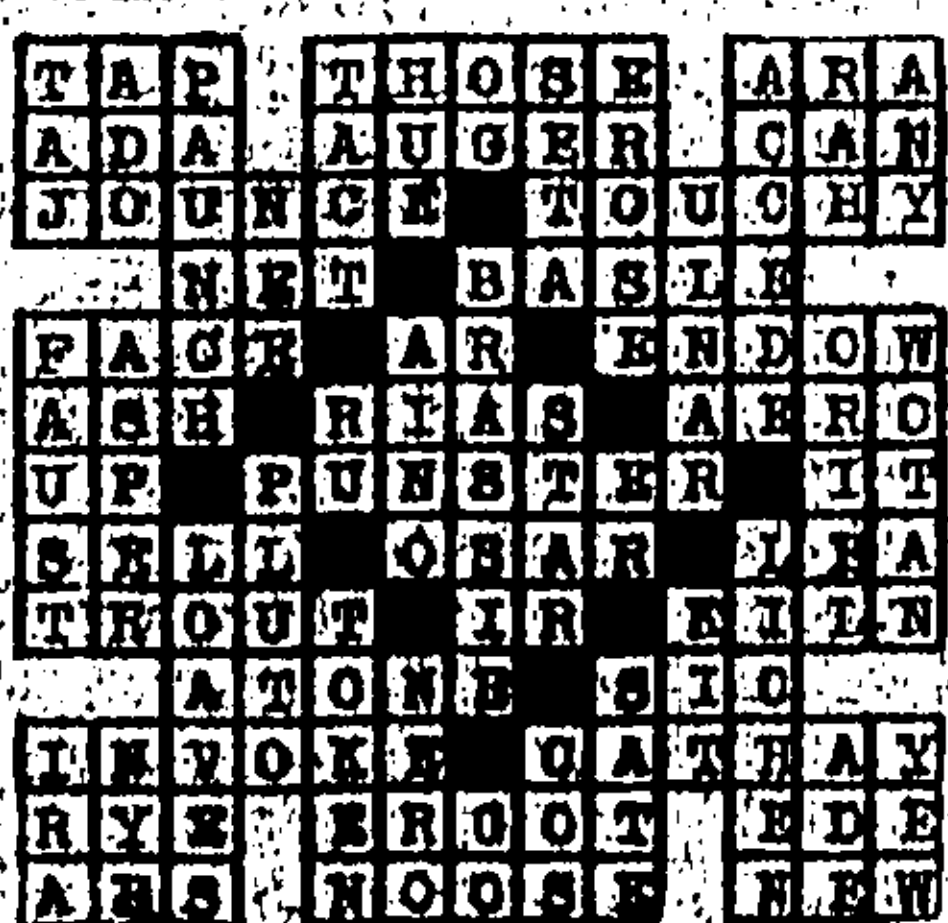
HORIZONTAL

- 1 Eggs
- 2 Brother of Odin
- 3 Banquet
- 4 Picture drawn with coloured crayons
- 5 Supreme dominion
- 6 Article
- 7 Tilled land
- 8 To leave out
- 9 To allow
- 10 Let it stand
- 11 Note of scale
- 12 Odious
- 13 Resident of a convent
- 14 At any time
- 15 Allowance for waste
- 16 Colloquial father
- 17 Pronoun
- 18 Time gone by
- 19 Head, organ
- 20 Sacred Hindu word
- 21 Pronoun
- 22 Well-mannered
- 23 English queen
- 24 To take unlawfully from
- 25 German secret police

VERTICAL

- 1 Behold
- 2 Soon
- 3 Faint
- 4 King of Israel
- 5 Aplomb
- 6 Note of scale
- 7 Famous Florentine family
- 8 Dog star
- 9 Non-citizen resident of Attica
- 10 Symbol for oleum
- 11 Nahoor sheep
- 12 Simpleton
- 13 Prefix: three
- 14 Symbol for tantalum
- 15 Latin for "and"
- 16 Skilful
- 17 Article
- 18 Islands off Ireland
- 19 Meadow
- 20 Preposition
- 21 Title
- 22 Mohammedan prince
- 23 To forbid
- 24 Snare
- 25 Fish-spear
- 26 Nautical
- 27 Sert
- 28 To bow
- 29 Lamina
- 30 Trunk of the human body
- 31 Iron block used for forging metal
- 32 Death notice
- 33 City in Spain
- 34 Table-land
- 35 Part of "to be"
- 36 Border
- 37 Teutonic deity
- 38 101
- 39 Exists


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IMPLACABLE WILL OF BRITISH EMPIRE TO VICTORY

MR. CHURCHILL'S speech had a world audience and the American press response is unanimous in hailing it as Britain's implacable will to victory.

The New York "Herald-Tribune" says that the speech carried with it a new hint of offensive power. Was it conceivable that America could refuse to supply machinery, ships, aeroplanes, guns and tanks which would give victory that would make them masters, and not cringing victims, of Hitler. It was not conceivable.

The "Washington Post" said that the speech united England and the Commonwealth as no Prime Minister had been able to before in a single speech. Mr. Churchill's voice over the radio ran the gamut of every mood except despair.

The "North Carolina Morning Herald" said that the speech was without vainglory and yet full of pride. "It will long be remembered."

Americans throughout the country heard the speech which went far to allay the fears of people in the United States concerning involvement in the war by the Lease and Lend Bill.

The "New York Times" says, "We in America need not fear that the final plea will go unanswered. Americans will put their confidence in Mr. Churchill and his countrymen and will equip them with the tools, as he said, to finish the job."

Mr. Sol Bloom, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the House of Representatives, said, "It was a superb message and a complete assertion that democracy is still more than a match for the dictators."

Magnificent

Senator Carter Glass said, "It was magnificent. It was a darned sight better speech than anyone in the Senate would be able to make against the Lease and Lend Bill."

Mr. Albert Warner, commentator of the Columbia Radio network, said, "It was a moving appeal that Mr. Churchill made to the United States. It was characterized by confidence and sober determination and by great restraint. It has brought a new prestige here."

The German broadcast fastened on to Mr. Churchill's reference to the four squares at Waterloo as an excuse for more praising of the valour of German soldiers in that battle.

Well Doctored

The Italians had the speech well doctored and the only sentence which was published was "the events in Libya are only part of the story." But what Mr. Churchill really said was "the events in Libya are only part of the story of the decline and fall of the Roman Empire."

The Sofia Radio devoted eight minutes to the speech but omitted all references to Bulgaria.

An American correspondent from Ankara writes that so called Nazi tourists in civilian clothes are increasing every day in Bulgaria. On the Rumanian side of the Danube pontoon bridging equipment is now openly exposed.

Inspired denials have been put forth in Sofia of Mr. Churchill's statement that German troops are already moving in Bulgaria.

New Zealand's Congratulations

"Our thoughts and prayers are with you always," cabled Mr. Fraser, Premier of New Zealand,

STOCKHOLM AND NAZI MOVE IN BALKANS

Mr. Churchill's speech was printed in full in the Stockholm newspapers. Headlines were specially emphasising with reference to the Bulgarian aerodromes being occupied by German ground personnel.—Reuter.

CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE RIFT IN CHUNGKING

OFFICIAL AND other circles in Washington are watching with interest matched only by their concern the present civil strife in China. It is hoped that Gen. Chiang Kai-shek with skillful handling can avert what might easily become a disaster for China and victory for the Far East Axis partner.

Many here think the matter dates back to the closing of the Burma Road after which it was reported that Russian aid to China began to melt away to a mere trickle. This was accompanied by suggestions from Moscow that Gen. Chiang might profitably seek closer relations with Yen-an (headquarters of the Communist forces) and that a larger voice in the councils of the Chinese Government should be given the Chinese Communists.

Unable to look a gift horse too closely in the mouth and pessimistic about continued Democratic aid, Gen. Chiang had begun to trim his sails accordingly when the Burma Road was reopened and financial aid from America and Britain was announced. This again changed the picture and made Gen. Chiang less dependent on aid which appeared to be not entirely above suspicion.

In addition it is reported here that the Chinese Communists have scarcely been living up to their agreement with Gen. Chiang not to teach Communist doctrines in areas where they are fighting, that in fact they have done as much propagandising as fighting and have enlisted many more men than the agreement with Chungking permitted; but whatever the causes, this civil strife is much regretted here at a time when every ounce of unity in China is necessary if the power which threatens both the Kuomintang and the Communists, namely Japan, is to be successfully fought.

Untimely Feud

The New York "Herald-Tribune," in an editorial titled "An Untimely Chinese Feud," says it is impossible to pass judgment on

sending his heartiest congratulations yesterday to Mr. Winston Churchill on his "splendid address."

"Its inspiring and heartening character will strengthen the will, fire and spirit of all British peoples throughout the world in the determination to complete the task to which they have set their hand," cabled Mr. Fraser.

Mr. Fraser also cabled congratulations to General Wavell from the Government and people of New Zealand on the capture of Benghazi.—Reuter.

TRADE MISSION LEAVING COLOMBIA

Members of the British Trade Mission to South America are leaving Bogota, Colombia, to-day after a most successful five-day visit.

There have been unrestrained demonstrations of sympathy for the cause of the British Empire.—Reuter.

CHINA MAIL
WINDSOR HOUSE

DOUBTFUL ASSET

Manchukuo has long ceased to be one of the world's key news centres. Information from this Japanese dependency is scanty and usually unimportant. But an attentive study of the Japanese press, which is still franker and more informative than that of the European totalitarian states, shows that this economically backward country has been driven too hard by its Japanese military masters, with the result that serious inflationary symptoms have appeared and a considerable curtailment of ambitious production plans for the current year has been necessary.

Manchukuo is a pivotal partner in the so-called *yen bloc*, the other members being Japan itself and the occupied North China. Early in the year the Japanese Government worked out a plan for investing 1,200,000,000 yen there in 1940. In return Manchukuo was to concentrate on coal, steel and power industries, all capable of serving military ends, and to increase shipments of coal, iron, and farm products to Japan.

Neither side, however, was able to live up to the terms of this bargain. The Japanese capital market is so choked with issues of war bonds that it proved impossible to raise the projected amount for investment in Manchukuo, and exports from Manchukuo to Japan fell off instead of increasing. This was partly because Japanese monopolistic control of farm products has discouraged production and partly for lack of necessary raw materials.

Another retarding factor in the progress of Manchukuo is the growing inflationary trend. Official figures usually understate rather than exaggerate unfavourable financial and economic developments. But on the basis of Manchukuo official figures one learns that the wholesale price index in Hsinking, the capital of the new state, has more than doubled between 1936 and 1940, while the cost of living in Hsinking has more than doubled between 1937 and 1940.

One of Japan's contributions to genuine well-being in Manchuria, a stable currency, has thus been sacrificed to military and industrial expansion. Effective development of Manchukuo seems impossible while Japan's re-

Of course the North has had it pretty badly. That is obvious to anyone from the communiques. Few days pass without reports of raids on Merseyside, "North-West" or "North-East" towns or the "South-West" or "South-East" of Scotland, all officially vague but generally identifiable, keep on recurring.

So a tour of the bombed areas of the North might seem like jumping, if not out of the frying pan into the fire, at least out of the fire into the frying-pan. I can honestly say, however, that the only night's sleep I missed through raids during a fortnight's tour of investigation for the "Daily Herald" was when London was being heavily bombed. That was because I stayed up all night in the Manchester office keeping in touch with my colleagues who had "gone to ground" in London under terrific bombardment. There were warnings but without the "bomblings," which would disturb a seasoned campaigner like myself. "Seasoned" that is, by being in London during the first five weeks of the Blitzkrieg. Indeed the most trying part of the tour was the ordeal of travel—ten hours from Euston to Manchester, and fourteen hours from Manchester to Glasgow. And in neither case was the delay due to enemy action. They first were caused by the runaway luggage barrow which derailed an express train and in the other a wayward waggon which broke loose.

Almost as trying was the effort to avoid seeming callous and unkind. It is not easy to tell people who have had repeated raids that, by comparison with London, they scarcely know what bombing means. Yet that is true of every part of the North which I visited. Even Merseyside, which has passed its 200th raid and which next to London, is the most heavily bombed part of the country, cannot be compared with anything in London. Its raids have been mainly during the past 10 weeks. Yet I question whether the total damage of the cities and towns of the Mersey is a third of that in any one of the riverside boroughs. Apart from extensive fire damage to warehouses in one part of Liverpool, which was restricted by the fire-services and which certainly had few dislocating effects, the bombs have been dispersed and, as usual, working-class districts have suffered. But a colleague in Liverpool had to act as a guide to enable me to find the damage and, because clearance of debris had been more rapid and thorough than in London, to tell me what was bomb-destruction and what was normal demolition.

Scotland's Quota

From a record which I have seen of the number of bombs dropped in Scotland during 13 months of war, including the attacks on Scapa Flow, I should say that it is not as great as the total for any week in London since September 7th. Newcastle, as one official there put it, has "scarcely even been dented" despite persistent attempts.

As for Manchester it is still at the "gather-round-boys-and-hear-about-my-bomb" stage. Any bomb within a mile is a "near-shave" and when I told them that in London we wore lapel-buttons with "I'm not interested in your bomb" on it they took it not as a joke but as an insult. Indeed the only place where, so far, I have sensed anxiety was in Manchester. There was certainly none in Liverpool, for instance, where the people are as solid and as stolid about the raids as they are in London.

In Glasgow, I was introduced as "an unkind member of the London Scottish, just back from the front line" and found that at public dinners they were coupling with the toast of the Army, Navy and Air Force "and the people of London." But I found too that they were thinking of the Battle of

sources in capital and material are so heavily mortgaged for the war in China. And, while there have been no recent reports of major political unrest in Manchukuo, the nationalist discontent of its Chinese population can only be aggravated by a shaky currency and a rising cost of living.

The War In The North Of Britain

London as we used to think of the Siege of Madrid—something magnificent but some way off. That is a matter for concern. With the lesson of London before them, local authorities must imagine the worst and then add a margin to it.

Reassuring

Most of what I found was reassuring. The arrangements for dealing with the homeless, one of main preoccupations, in each place were certainly encouraging, although nowhere, not even on Merseyside, had they been put to

By Ritchie Calder

the same desperate tests as in London. Nor had the plans, which were, on scrutiny, admirable, been improved in the light of London's experience. Liverpool, galvanised by the dynamic personality of Mr. Molyneux, its P.A.C. Officer, made the arrangements, which I saw, eighteen months ago. Just as the A.R.P. services have their control-rooms, so has the Liverpool welfare services. The "control" is in a subterranean office, linked to the other services so that an "incident" is immediately notified, and to its centres for dealing with the homeless throughout the city. In it hangs an "Operations Map" with multi-coloured studs marking the sites of the various area offices, rest centres and auxiliary centres, any one of which can be called instantly into action.

In case "H.Q." should be bombed this control room is reproduced in, and synchronised with, four other Area H.Q.'s, one of which would immediately take over. Each of these Area H.Q.'s is equipped with emergency stores of blankets, bedding, food and so on, even to baby's feeding-bottles and diapers, as well as with cooking facilities (not forgetting field kitchens in case the gas or electric supplies fail) and hot containers for transport. That is in case any of the food and rest centres, equipped and provisioned in the same way, should ever be over-taxed or new centres should have to be called into commission. Corporation kitchens provide the hot meals.

No Grapes Of Wrath

Finding homes or billets has not, so far, presented any difficulties and if they should arise Liverpool is prepared to meet them by drastic requisitioning. But I was encouraged to find that Liverpool does realise that the homeless are casualties and require as kindly handling as though they had lost a limb instead of a home. The Assistance Board and Billeting Officers go to them and there are no "Grapes of Wrath" wanderings from one department to another.

My heart warmed to Mr. Molyneux, the official who acts righteously first and argues financially afterwards. And it warmed, too, to Capt. Embleton, Chairman of the Newcastle A.R.P. committee and Deputy Controller. To Capt. Embleton, Newcastle owes its "Relief Officers." These are those "Welfare Officers" (as I prefer to call them) who, I have suggested, should move into the scene of the bombings alongside the "Incident Officers" who direct the A.R.P. Services. They gather up the homeless, make them feel befriended and cared for, tell them exactly what can and will be done for them, in the way of finding new homes, getting compensation and so on, and take them, by coach if need be, to the Food and Rest Centres. The need for such officers was so forcibly illustrated by the hapless people who were left wandering among the ruins of their London homes, that I felt sure that Newcastle had taken the lesson from them. But no, the system had been in existence for months before London was heavily bombed.

Resent Anonymity

Switching back to Merseyside, Birkenhead, until my visit, had been of those anonymous "North-West Towns" and the folks had resented it; they were

rather proud of the way they had behaved under bombs. I was able to say that they had been bombed and how well they had dealt with their homeless. It is rather nice because, although it was a case of organisation, the spirit is neighbourliness. Everybody, including the officials, seems to know everybody else by their Christian names. It comes in useful in finding homes. The Billeting Officer is not billeting; he is finding new homes and furnishing them, with the matey cooperation of the Assistance Board officials and the help of the Mayor, Mr. W. H. Egan, who had got hold of furniture and stored it throughout the town. The officer knows his people well enough to say, "Oh, Mysis couldn't go to Such-and-Such a Street, she'd not get on with Mrs. Brown. But she'd be all right alongside Mrs. Smith."

Manchester and Glasgow both have highly developed and well-conceived organisations for dealing with the homeless. Both had been planned well ahead. But the finest rest centre which I have seen was in Newcastle. It is asking almost too much but I wish it could be the model for the other parts of the country. It started off with the advantage of being the palatial mansion of a coal-and-finance magnate, with solid walls that might have been built to withstand a siege. Its stately, panelled ballroom has been set aside as the dining-hall ("refectory" would be more apt) for the homeless. Other rooms have been converted into cheerful bedrooms, filled with inviting truckle beds. There are showers and hot baths. Every room has a coal fire (important alike for cooking and heating) but hot-water bottles are provided. The capacious cellars and vaults have been turned into air-raid shelters, heated by the hot pipes of the central-heating system. Newcastle goes on the sound principle of getting the homeless out of the Rest Centres as soon as possible into homes or billets. That is wise, because of the risks and the discomforts of the average Rest Centre. But I should not worry unduly about those who might, by unforeseen reasons, be stranded there. They would be comfortable and safe.

Rest Centres

That kind of house is not found conveniently close to bombed working-class areas as a rule, but they are to be found in outer suburbs of towns, relatively safe, and lending themselves to adaptation. Since it is so essential to get people clear of a bombed area as soon as possible, why not transfer people from "Front Line" Rest Centres to hostels such as that one, assuming similar shelter accommodation?

Another main concern was the shelter problem. And in most places I found cause for misgiving. Until people have experience of all-night raids, the need for dormitory shelters does not come home very forcibly. Once they have to contemplate the possibility of spending a freezing winter's night in an Anderson, a surface- or a basement shelter, people begin to understand lots of things which have happened in London. Everywhere in the North there is agitation about deep shelters. The Communists are "cashing in" and, of course, rousing all kinds of political resistances.

Swears

Most ordinary people in the North and in Scotland would swear by their "Andersons" if they did not have cause to swear at them. But in Manchester, for instance, I found women baling out the water preparatory to bedding down their children for the night. One woman took over 40 bucketsful out of her's. In many cases I found that the shelters had been sunk into the land-drainage ducts or with complete disregard for the obvious nature of the soil. The clamour, including deputations to the Corporation and the "ambush" of Sir Harry Haig, the Commissioner, by women when he visited a housing estate, is for proper water-proofing. The excuse is, as always, lack of cement. But what about tarmac and bitu-

men and other waterproofing agents?

In Liverpool, the surface shelters are "well-patronised," but I have seen enough samples of materials used in the structure of some of them to know that many of them ought to be, and must be, condemned. In Glasgow controversy rages over deep shelters. The exponents are not confined to the Communists. Far from it. Personally, I did not mean to get embroiled. I took a detached view. I was given details of "work done" and "work in hand," but what impressed me a great deal more was direct observation. I know the Glasgow slums and the working-class tenements pretty well and, without official escort, I went to see for myself. The conclusions were disturbing. Baffle walls at the open mouths of the entrances to tall tenement buildings do not seem good enough to me. Even if I accepted the safety-factor, I know these "closes" on a winter's night and I would no more shelter in them than in a refrigerator. Alternative surface shelters seemed far from adequate.

Glasgow Sleep

Glasgow is a city of indispensable workers. They need sleep. Where will they get it if all-night raids start? They themselves will tell you "in our beds." Lots of us vowed that once I was told that deep shelters in Glasgow are impossible. I was even told that the City was "built on rock." So I went to my friends the geologists. Glasgow, they assured me, is largely built on "drumlins," little hills of boulder clay. Tenement streets climb steeply up and down them. Lanarkshire has miners. Scotland has brilliant mining engineers. I think there is a job for them.

Edinburgh I found alive and alert on the shelter problem, although with a lot to do. It is, like Glasgow, a city of tall, solidly built stone buildings. Some of them have stood three hundred years and more. But Edinburgh has houses built on steep slopes and, consequently to reach street level they have as many as three layers of cellars. It is estimated that 80,000 people could be accommodated in one kind of basement or another. To provide dormitory deep-shelter for workers a stretch of deep railway tunnel is being taken over. Caves on the outskirts are likely to be converted and as far as I could judge, the authorities would be open-minded to any deep-shelter suggestion.

Newcastle Medal

It is Newcastle, however, which deserves the medal. Without waiting for grants it provided for 2½ miles of admirable deep shelter, in which, as Embleton said: "You can walk to safety." True, that tunnel was a "gift." It was a coal-haulage way, 60 to 80 feet underground. The City converted it. And it would not acquire particular merit for doing something so obvious, if it had not shown real imagination as well.

For example, there is a culvert, carrying a stream for three-quarters of a mile underground. It is a spacious culvert. Newcastle turned it into one of the finest deep shelters in the country—by the simple device of flooring it over well above spate level. And the result is a commodious, clean, naturally ventilated, well-lit, well-equipped shelter, capable of sleeping thousands.

Again, the Corporation had sanctioned for a new drainage scheme. The Engineer was told to make the drain big enough and deep enough underground to make into a shelter, its drainage function being postponed for the duration.

A mine "drift" is being converted, to provide deep shelter for workers who need dormitory accommodation.

And there is another scheme so ingenious and yet so obvious that the censors will not let me mention it because it would provoke the bombers. It is true that Newcastle has used existing facilities; but it has also used its brains.

What I have tried to impress upon everyone whom I have talked to in the North is that the lesson of London has to be learned quickly or it will be learned tragically. The Battle of London is only a phase in the wider Battle.



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All donations will be acknowledged in the columns of The S. C. M. Post.

ITALY TOLD OF RATIONING HARDSHIPS IN GERMANY

ITALIAN CORRESPONDENTS in Germany are given facilities for describing conditions there, but some of their despatches are hardly likely to win enthusiasm for the Reich.

Italian girls must imagine themselves in some sort of paradise after reading in the newspaper "Popolo di Roma" recently how a fraulein disposed of her year's 150 clothes ration card points in three hours and had very little to show for them.

The article assured readers that "in Germany not a single thing may be bought without the appropriate documents." The writer went shopping with a woman friend and saw 75 of the 150 points spent on three articles only. These were a woollen dress, 40, a petticoat, 20, and a blouse, 15.

Small articles such as stockings and handkerchiefs brought the points total to within 14 of maximum. As these were not sufficient for pyjamas she borrowed some points from a friend.

Stockings Must Last

Only six pairs of stockings a year are permitted.

The Italian's woman friend still wanted an overcoat. She could get it only by depositing her old one with a committee empowered to grant the necessary bonus points.

A person who needs an overcoat and has neither points nor old coat must apply to the police who, if they are suspicious, make a house inspection.

"A very simple thing — that is, simple in Germany," comments the "Popolo di Roma's" correspondent. Every person in Germany may have two pairs of shoes. If he possesses more he must give up one to acquire a new pair. This operation may be carried out only once a year.

Hats may be bought without a ration card. "The police have not yet poked their noses into this branch of feminine elegance," the correspondent comments.

WHEN WE DICTATE PEACE

THE VIEW THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO VINDICTIVENESS IN FRAMING PEACE TERMS AFTER THE WAR WAS EXPRESSED BY AIR MARSHAL SIR PHILIP JOUBERT, SPEAKING IN LONDON TO MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL EMPIRE SOCIETY.

"We must put the right people into the job of making that peace, and keep them there," he said. "We must see that we don't have any second-raters who do not even know their geography and will frame vindictive terms impossible of fulfilment."

"I look to finishing it ourselves this time, not as an appanage to an Allied Europe, but as the sole people who are in this job."

"By reason of 800 years of political development we have reached a maturity in our institutions which is absolutely lacking in any other part of the world. We are qualified as a nation to speak as the leading hand in any settlement arrived at."

"On what lines should we dictate the peace? Surely with the accent of personal liberty, the ability of the individual to judge for himself, without treading on anybody's face."

The King and New Regiment. The King has assumed the honorary colonelcy of the Newfound-land Heavy Regt. Royal Artillery, raised only last spring. The first contingent reached Britain in May, and other contingents have since landed here to receive their training.

SIR D. POUND ON INTRIGUE

Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, and the First Sea Lord, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Dudley Pound, replied to attacks on naval administration when they spoke in London at the annual reunion luncheon of the R.N.V.R. (Auxiliary Patrol) Club.

"The attacks made upon me personally, and sometimes quite wrongly on the naval staff, don't affect us individually," said Sir Dudley. "They just run off our backs like water off a duck's back. But the people who make these attacks ought to realise that what they are doing is spreading distrust in the country and helping our enemies in that way."

Declaring that it was different if those who were competent to know thought that someone better could take their places, Sir Dudley added: "But we do object that attempts should be made to oust us by intrigue. That is quite enough about a very sordid matter."

Mr. Alexander's Reply

Mr. A. V. Alexander said that Sir Dudley was as often the subject of public attack as he was himself.

"I do not mind public attack, and I am perfectly certain he does not either," said Mr. Alexander. "I feel that personalities and publicity which have been made evident in recent attacks are very often unworthy of the people who launch them."

"They may rest assured that neither the First Sea Lord nor I has any other purpose to serve than to reach the steadfast goal we have set ourselves — to win this war, to defeat Hitler and his satellites, and to make a home for the future in which our people may dwell in peace and security."

On war prospects, Mr. Alexander said: "We face with confidence and determination the task of making sea power hold on and lead to victory, and I am convinced we are going both to hold on and win the victory."

COST OF LIVING IN BRITAIN

The cost of living index figure in Britain, according to Ministry of Labour figures, show a rise of 12 per cent. during last year.

At the beginning of 1940, the index figure was 74 per cent. above that for July, 1914, as compared with 55 per cent. immediately before the outbreak of war in the previous September.

By March 1, the figure had risen to 79 and on July 1 had again risen sharply to 87. It declined to 85 on August 1 but by January 1 this year had risen to 90.—British Wireless.

KENNEDY'S CRITICS

Mr. Joseph Kennedy's resignation of the United States Ambassadorship in London has aroused much editorial discussion in the United States. Reaction falls into three main groups.

Some newspapers are frankly relieved to see him go. Others, while praising the zeal and ability he displayed, make no attempt to conceal their uneasiness about the tenor of his remarks in many private conversations since his return to the United States.

"Kennedy has resisted the well-known British blandishments which have always been dealt out to United States Ambassadors and which have succeeded in turning most of them into dewy-eyed Anglophiles," says the "Daily News." "In Kennedy's case even the god of Royalty was invoked to hypnotise him, but he stayed un-hypnotised."

Himself To Blame

The New York "Times" states: "American people would be ungrateful if they did not recognize and remember the good work Kennedy did for them in London. If his real services are now clouded by off-the-record interviews, Kennedy has only himself to blame."

"Unguarded talk was always one of the defects of his qualities in London. Another was reliance on hunches rather than on cold analysis."

The "Herald Tribune" asserts less charitably: "It is the simple, perhaps, unpleasant truth that with Kennedy's definite disconnection from the diplomatic service a vast number of Americans honestly concerned for their country and her freedom will breathe more easily."

One well-known Washington columnist, Mark Sullivan, is perturbed by Mr. Kennedy's hints that Britain is turning into a Socialist country. Sullivan says that the United States ought to try to get more information on this subject before committing itself to closer collaboration.

The New Orleans "Times" comments: "Kennedy's ambassadorial role has not been his most successful, and his relinquishment of the London post need not be deeply regretted by his own or the British Government in the light of his reported views on the war situation and Britain's fate."

'KEEP ATTACKING'

"We have got to keep on hitting our enemies now while preparing in the most thorough manner to deliver the most decisive and best prepared offensive that has ever been launched, and at the right time and the right place," Field-Marshal Sir Cyril Deverell stated at Huddersfield recently.

Sir Cyril, who was formerly Chief of the Imperial General Staff, and is now honorary Director-General of the Army and R.A.F. Savings Association, was speaking at a luncheon to inaugurate Huddersfield's War Weapons Week.

"Whether we meet the German army in England or elsewhere, we shall be up against the most highly trained and equipped army in the world," he said.

"Obviously we have got to train and equip our army to the same standard in the quickest time possible."

Ernest Hemingway Married. Mr. Ernest Hemingway, the American author, was married in Cheyenne, Wyoming, to Miss Martha Gellhorn, 28, also a writer, whose first marriage to M. Bertrand de Jouvenel, an ex-Paoli, in 1933, ended in divorce. Mr. Hemingway obtained a divorce last November.

America Fears Hitler's Surprise Stroke

ADMINISTRATION leaders in Washington believe that the next eight or 10 weeks will tell whether the United States will be plunged into actual warfare against the Axis because of President Roosevelt's unprecedented programme to "guarantee" a British victory.

Actually, it is war right now without any shots being fired and there is an alliance between the United States and Britain without any seals or signatures.

Chancellor Hitler, however, knows just as Washington knows, that the United States cannot deliver an "avalanche" of arms to Britain before six months or a year, and hence Chancellor Hitler may attempt a knockout blow at Britain before United States' planes, guns, ships and tanks can be delivered in sufficient quantities.

I found high Government officials acutely apprehensive lest a test of the British ability to survive comes before sufficient aid arrives, writes a correspondent. Diplomatic, military and naval leaders told me they believe Britain will be able to turn back any German invasion.

One high official said the "odds on such a Nazi undertaking are easily 60 to 40 in Britain's favour."

"Total Destruction"

Those close to President Roosevelt fear that Chancellor Hitler's surprise stroke may be even worse than an invasion, that he may try to knock Britain out by "total destruction" from the air, for which Coventry and London bombings may have been merely rehearsals.

This attack of "total destruction," it is believed in the United States, may come after or simultaneously with a German invasion of Ireland sometime in March.

I can state on authority that the United States' new policy of "all out" aid to Britain is a direct result of the explorations of the Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Sumner Welles, a year ago in Rome, Paris, Berlin and London. Mr. Welles came out of Germany last year bearing what was tantamount to a blunt warning from Chancellor Hitler that if the United States knew what was good for her, she would keep her skirts clear of any entanglements such as aid for Britain.

Hitler Sought "Peace"

That was the time of the "phony war" and reports reaching Mr. Roosevelt, some purportedly originating from Reich Air Marshal Hermann Goering, that Chancellor Hitler was in a mood to negotiate peace, were heard time and again. These "feelers" even contended that Chancellor Hitler was willing to step aside as dictator if any equitable peace for Germany was feasible.

Mr. Welles learned that Chancellor Hitler was willing to negotiate a peace, but that following the conquest of Poland the Fuehrer wanted a "victor's peace."

In private conversation with Chancellor Hitler, Mr. Welles listened to the Fuehrer paint a grim word picture of German "planes reaching beyond Europe, a picture ranking the United States as a rival of Germany, whether or not the United States entered the war."

President's Challenge

Mr. Welles returned and Mr. Roosevelt flung down the challenge that there can be no reconciliation between the Axis "tyranny" and the Democratic "way of life."

The barricade had been thrown up but there had been no shooting. In this race against time to arm Britain, however, the United States undoubtedly will be compelled to take bolder steps than any disclosed thus far. The Administration's programme is being pushed ahead on the principle that if shots are to be fired, it must be Germany who fires the first one.

What developments might drive Chancellor Hitler to declare war? 1. Use of American warships to convoy arms shipments across the Atlantic.

2. Use of American merchant ships through modification of the Neutrality Law to transport war supplies to the British Isles.

3. Seizure and handing over to Britain of foreign merchant ships now tied up in United States ports.

All must be regarded as strong possibilities, because they offer relief of Britain's most urgent shipping needs.

Other Considerations

Sources close to the President believe Chancellor Hitler's anger will be tempered by such considerations as:

Japan.—Whether he can count upon the Japanese to enter the war under the triple alliance, which contains the loophole that Japan is obligated to fight only in the event of "attack" by the United States or other non-belligerents.

Russia.—Whether Chancellor Hitler could feel sure of the Soviets, who are at his back, while meeting a new and powerful enemy in the west.

Italy.—Whether war on the United States might prove to be the move needed to break down Italy's wobbly war machine.

France and Spain.—Whether they might complete the already serious troubles between Germany and France and turn starving Spain from the Axis.

There is a deep conviction in circles close to Mr. Roosevelt that Chancellor Hitler will move cautiously in taking the United States as a declared enemy and that Germany, for all her threats, is likely to stand for a vast outpouring of United States' aid to Britain before she declares war.

OUTDOES THE KAISER

Sir Robert Vansittart, Chief Adviser to the Foreign Office, traced in a B.B.C. overseas broadcast similarities between the Kaiser's Germany and Hitler's Germany. He described Nazism as an outcome and not an aberration.

"The Kaiser's speeches were essentially the same as Hitler's," he stated. "Adolph, the clap-trap king, would have liked the flamboyant flourishes of the Imperial barnstormer. The cry for a dominant race of Nordic master-men was persistent. At that time it came from fanatics like Nietzsche and Treitschke; now it comes from mongrels like Hitler and Goebbels."

"It must be realised that in Poland, for example, the Brazen Horde is carrying out a policy of racial extermination as systematically as Imperial Germany exterminated the Herreros. The torturers and assassins and exterminators of the Gestapo are the lineal descendants of that Imperial butcher bird, Gen. von Trotha, who in the Kaiser's heyday deliberately wiped out whole tribes in Africa."

"Other similarities between Kaiser and Fuehrer are their boundless conceit, their laughable megalomania. But for this combination of conceit and megalomania Hitler would never have given away so much of his game in Mein Kampf."

5 MILLION MORE BATTLE-SUITS

Contracts have just been signed, states the Ministry of Supply, for the largest single order for serge battle-dress placed since the war began—5,000,000 blouses and 6,000,000 trousers. Nearly 250 clothing contractors, in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, will be engaged on the work. The 9,000 miles of serge, taking 10,000 tons of wool required, will be manufactured by 150 firms. Nine thousand miles of lining material will also be used. More than 200,000 brass buttons will be sewn on the uniforms.

CURATE GASSED, NURSE DEAD

When a 51-year-old clergyman and a nurse of 46 were together in a Bournemouth flatlet they failed to notice an escape of gas, with the result that the nurse died and the clergyman became unconscious.

This theory was put forward by the deputy coroner, Mr. T. C. Thompson, at the inquest on the nurse, Miss Elsie J. Widgery, of Ardmore Road, Parkstone, at Bournemouth when a verdict of accidental death was returned.

The coroner said that the jury would have gathered that the two people were very occupied with one another. It seemed to him highly improbable that the tragedy was pre-arranged or that it was an attempt by of them to kill the other.

The inquest had been adjourned for the clergyman, the Rev. Eric Sherrin Tarrant, perpetual curate of Wool Dorset, to give evidence, but the coroner said that he had received medical certificates stating that Mr. Tarrant's memory had not recovered from the shock, and that he was not in a fit state to travel.

Found On Bed

P.S. Butter, who forced an entry into the flatlet, said that Miss Widgery was on the bed dead and Mr. Tarrant was on the floor. There was a partly consumed bottle of sherry and two wine glasses which had been used, one of the glasses being on the floor was the stem broken.

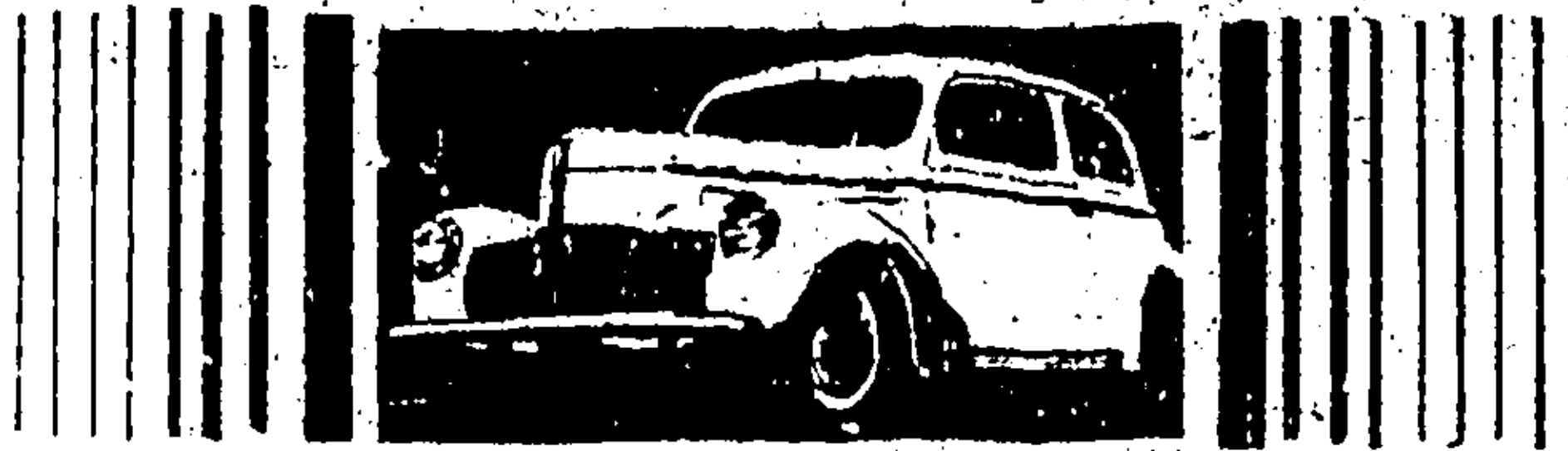
There was also a tray of tea things on the table which had not been used, and a kettle was on the gas ring with only a very little water in it. The taps of the gas ring and gas fire were turned on. Mr. Tarrant was only partially dressed.

Mr. Lewis Manning, for Mr. Tarrant, said that his client's brother, his wife and Mrs. Tarrant's mother were present to give evidence if necessary.

It might be that Mr. Tarrant would never remember what happened on the afternoon in question. His meeting with Miss Widgery was not a haphazard one. She had been known to the family for two or three years and was a frequent visitor to Mr. Tarrant's home.

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PUBLIC AUCTIONS

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on Tuesday, the 11th. February, 1941 commencing at 11.00 a.m. at their Sales Room, No. 2, Connaught Road, Central (2nd. Floor)

623 Pairs Boots.
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153 Caps.
62 Pairs Canvas Rubber Shoes.
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46 Pairs Puttees.
29 Pairs Khaki Breeches.
29 Khaki Helmets.
27 White Khaki Overalls.
24 Khaki Overalls.

also

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Terms: Cash on Delivery.
LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.
Hong Kong, 10th Feb., 1941.

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BRIDGE NOTES

A LUCKY HAND

By The Four Aces

South was lucky to make his contract, but he should be given credit for timing his plays so as to take advantage of his good fortune:

South, Dealer
Neither side vulnerable

♠ 7 4 2	♠ N	♠ Q 10 5
♥ Q 8 7 6 2	♥ W	♥ A
♦ A 10	♦ E	♦ Q 7 6 3
♣ 6 4 2	♣ S	♣ 2

The bidding:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1♠ Pass
1♠ Pass 2♠ Pass
2NT Pass 3NT Pass

West opened the five of hearts against the ambitious three-no-trump contract. East took the heart Ace and returned the Queen of clubs. And, after some thought, South put up the Ace of clubs.

The opening trick assured him of three heart tricks, and the top cards in the black suits would yield four more. Two additional tricks were required for the contract. Both could be found in spades, if West happened to hold the Queen and only one other spade; otherwise it would be necessary to play West for the diamond Ace (so as to win a trick with dummy's diamond King) and also to find a third spade trick.

South began by leading the Jack of hearts and letting it ride for a successful finesse. Next he led the heart nine, winning in dummy with the heart ten. But it was still too early to cash the King of hearts; that would set up West's last heart and lead to the defeat of the contract. Instead he cashed the top spades and when the Queen failed to fall, he led the low spade from the dummy.

East took the spade Queen and returned the Jack of clubs, but South carefully refused to win the trick. But he could safely win the next club and cash the spade Jack. Then a diamond lead towards dummy's King found West powerless to prevent the two red Kings from making tricks.

Yesterday you were Merwin Mader's partner and, with neither side vulnerable, you held,

♠ K J 9 8
♥ 10 6
♦ A 10 7
♣ Q J 10 6

The bidding:
You Jacoby Mader Schenken
Pass Pass 1♥ Pass
(7)

ANSWER: Bid one spade. There is no need to jump at this point, since your partner will re-bid if he has a legitimate opening bid. If he hasn't, all more reason for you not to jump the bidding. Score 100% for one spade, 50% for two no-trump, 0 for any other bid.

Question No. 636

To-day you hold the same hand, and the bidding continues.

You Jacoby Mader Schenken
Pass Pass 1♥ Pass
1♠ Pass 2♥ Pass
(7)

What do you bid? (Answer To-morrow.)
(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

TEACHER-MASTER DECREE

SUBMISSIONS BY counsel that a wife's statements in the witness-box in the Divorce Court should be regarded plainly as those of a sex-maniac were turned down by Sir Boyd Merriman, President.

The wife, principal witness in support of her husband's petition, was a schoolteacher from 1905 to 1937, and said she had committed misconduct over a period of twenty years with a master, now head of a Manchester school.

The co-respondent denied the charges on oath, and his counsel said the wife was proved to have made, in the course of the last fifteen years or so, allegations of sexual immorality in one form or another against certain of her men and women colleagues.

Sir Boyd found the wife and the co-respondent guilty of misconduct. He granted the husband a decree nisi with costs and awarded £200 damages against the co-respondent. The petition was by Mr. Henry Donnelly, warehouse clerk, of Streetford Road, Old Trafford, Manchester, against Mrs. Ruth Donnelly, King's Road, Old Trafford, alleging misconduct with Mr. Reginald Hugh Fuller, headmaster of St. Mary's Boys' School, Hulme, Manchester.

Mr. Fuller, who is married, lives in Newport Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy. In 1921 he was promoted from assistant master to headmaster of the school at which Mrs. Donnelly was an assistant mistress.

Suspended

Sir Boyd Merriman said that, according to Mrs. Donnelly's story, she had become very friendly with Mr. Fuller before he joined up in the last war.

She said that during Mr. Fuller's Army service she used to send him presents of chocolate and so on, but he denied that.

Then, she said, having been invalided out of the Army, Mr. Fuller returned to the school in November, 1917, at once began to show a particular interest in her and soon after did what she had variously described as "rapping or seducing her."

Sir Boyd said it was difficult to imagine any jury coming to the conclusion that she was raped. It could be left at this: that, if her story was true, her consent in the first instance was reluctant.

At the end of September, 1937, over what would otherwise appear to have been a somewhat trivial matter, a row flared up between her and the co-respondent on some subject of school discipline, with the result that Mr. Fuller reported her and, in effect, she was suspended.

That suspension was followed by a campaign of letter writing. Mrs. Donnelly wrote long letters to various people connected with the school and ultimately sent out a printed broadcast sheet which Sir Boyd gathered went to various parents and others, telling the story he was dealing with now.

WED 50 YEARS AFTER PARTING

They were childhood friends more than fifty years ago. They lost sight of each other, next met as grown-ups with families, and parted again, only to meet a third time years later at a home for lonely people.

And now, at the Bond Street register office, Hull, Mr. William Robinson, seventy, and Mrs. Emma Ward, aged sixty-five, were married.

Mr. Robinson, a retired grocer, has one son by his former marriage. Mrs. Ward has seven sons and one daughter living.

"After the death of my first husband I went to live in the Ada Holmes rest house for people absolutely alone," said the bride.

"About a year ago Mr. Robinson came to live there."

"Aren't you the William Robinson who used to keep a grocer's shop in the Messia Road?" I asked.

"After a while we decided to keep each other company for the rest of our lives." Mr. and Mrs. Robinson now have a home of their own on the North Hull Council Housing Estate.

DOG BITES Are Dangerous,

a physician should therefore be consulted without delay if you have the misfortune to be bitten by a dog.

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SOOTHING COOLING HEALING.

BARKED SOS TO POLICE

(By A Special Correspondent)

A white dog, barking frantically as she swam around her mistress, guided river police to a mobile canteen which had plunged into Bristol Harbour in the black-out.

The dog was saved, but her owner—Mrs. Dorothy Furneaux Cook, widow, aged fifty, of Rodney Cottages, Clifton, Bristol—was drowned.

Mrs. Cook was driving one of the Y.M.C.A. canteens presented to the King by the T.U.C.

Ever since it arrived in Bristol a fortnight ago it had been in twenty-four-hour use.

For several nights in succession Mrs. Cook had driven it to A.F.S. workers, first-aid posts and demolition.

Always she had her pet—Vanka, a Russian Samoyed—with her.

Then one Sunday night she set out on her rounds for the last time.

Her Epitaph

With her were two Sea Scout assistants—Alfred Ayles, aged eighteen, of Penfield Street, and Peter Carter, aged fifteen, of Denbigh Street, both of Bristol.

They were in the back of the canteen when it plunged into the harbour from an unfenced road.

Flung clear through the unlocked back doors they tried to rescue Mrs. Cook, but they could not find her in the darkness and they swam to safety.

Mrs. Cook's daughter, who lived with her at Rodney Cottages, spoke this epitaph:

"This is how mother would

ROMANCE HAS A BREAK

Lord St. Levan, owner of Mount St. Michael—the little island township off Marazion, Cornwall—has died at his Marazion home, The Rookery, aged eighty-three.

John Townshend St. Aubyn, Lord St. Levan, was the second baron.

In 1892 he married Lady Edith Hilaria Edgcombe, daughter of the fourth Earl of Mount Edgcombe, and had two daughters. Lady Levan died in 1931, and in 1933, at the age of seventy-two, Lord St. Levan married the seventy-two-year-old widow of the second Earl of Dartrey.

It was when he was a young officer that he first met Miss Julia Wombwell, as she then was, and they became great friends. Society gossip hinted that they would marry, but they did not—until more than fifty years later.

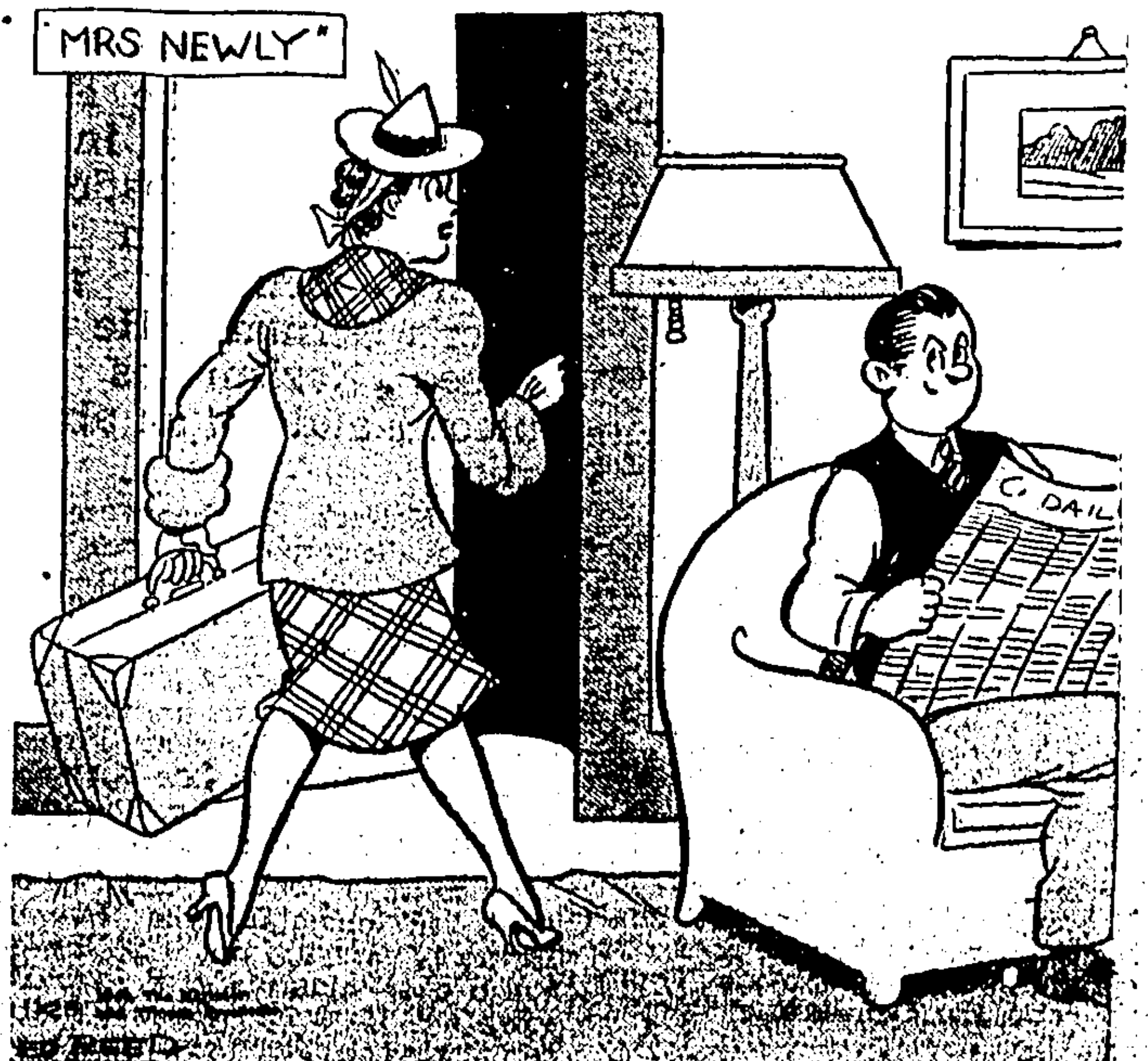
Heir to the title is Lord St. Levan's nephew, Mr. Francis Cecil St. Aubyn, son of the late Hon. Arthur James Dudley Stuart St. Aubyn, Lord St. Levan's brother, who died in 1897.

like to have died—serving her country."

The canteen has been raised. Soon it will be repaired and put back into the service for which Mrs. Cook, W.V.S., gave her life.

OFF THE RECORD

By ED REED



"And this time I'm leaving forever, but don't you DARE leave any dirty dishes."

Here's Luck

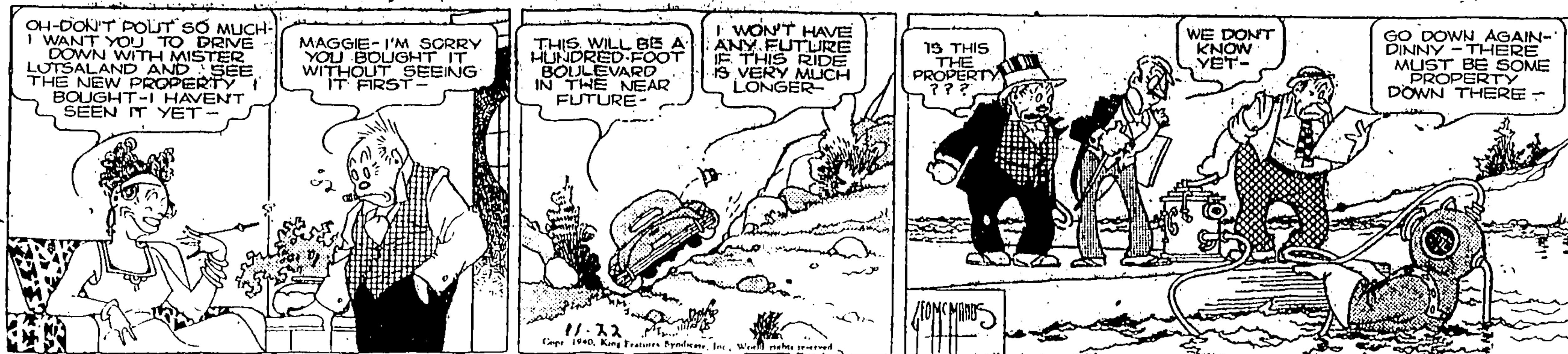
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Bringing Up Father

By George MacManus



A PAGE FOR WOMEN

Waistline Slenderised

Even some very young women have what is called a spare tyre at their waistlines. This is a roll of fat which shouldn't be there at all and no corset or girdle can conceal it. In fact, a corset or girdle is apt to accent it as the excess flesh around the hip-line is pushed up to the waistline by any constricting garment.

A spare tyre definitely ages one's figure and it should be dieted and exercised into oblivion.

This roll of flesh is caused by permitting your midriff to grow flabby and your posture poor. The sagging abdominal muscles cannot do their job of holding you up and keeping your waistline slim.

To begin a programme of re-fashioning you must heed the advice of Miss Van Rensselaer who is an authority on figure correction at the American Woman's Association in New York.

"Keeping your stomach held in and up and your chest lifted high will not necessarily take off excess flesh at your waistline, but it will make a very definite difference in the appearance of your figure and tends to firm the abdominal muscles. You teach them to behave and that is important," she claims.

And to supplement this conscious habit of standing and walking in good posture, Miss Van Rensselaer suggests the following three exercises to be done every day, or every other day if you



This industrious beauty is practicing the Back Lying Scissors exercise described in to-day's column.

have another exercise routine to master!

Exercises To Slim

Abdomen

Back Lying Scissors: Lie flat on your back, hands on hips. Keeping knees straight, raise right leg and as you lower it to the floor lift left leg. Repeat this scissor fashion 15 to 20 times in quick rhythm. Then rest and repeat.

Free Bicycle: Lie flat on back. Raise knees to chest, then go through the motions of pedalling a bicycle by extending right leg forward, down and back to chest; the left leg following the same procedure and in rhythm. Repeat 15 to 20 times. Rest and repeat.

Double Leg Lowering, Left and Right: Lie on the floor on your back, hands grasping the foot of the bed or a heavy chair behind you elbows touching the floor. Raise both legs up, swing to the right and down to the floor in an arc; up and back to original position. Three times to each side. Rest and repeat.

Lingerie Touches

There is a tendency to go drab in dress during the cold months. A woman is likely to figure that her coat is going to hide her dress so why bother to fuss. When you begin to feel like that take a good squint at yourself in your mirror—I'll bet you look pretty uninteresting! Make a turn about face and perk up—lack of vanity is a sure sign of old age getting you or that you are in need of a vacation and change!

Bright new make-up helps a lot to make a woman look chic and thoughtfully groomed. Winter shades are keyed to winter clothes colours and as one's skin lightens a shade or two during the colder months check and see. If your powder is light enough for your skin tone. Keep your skin well lubricated so it will not look wrinkled and old—notice the difference in your appearance when you apply shiny cream to your face! Literally the lubricant makes your skin look years younger.

Lingerie Touches

Always Good

By sewing on a pretty organdie ruffle, or a smart set of collar and cuffs to an oldish dress you not only get more wear from the model but it looks new on you. White, or the paler pastel shades near one's face are most flattering and more women should take advantage of the delightful assortment of neckwear offered. Every type of woman has been considered by the designers and you are bound to find a lingerie set which will give you and your dress the lifts needed.

I'll wager you have had the experience of being caught looking ungroomed by someone whom you

wanted terribly to impress—an old beau, a catty female friend, your son's best girl—or any one of the people important in your life. It certainly pays to look smart all of the time and a woman likes herself better and radiates poise and charm if she knows she is most presentable.

Other Incidentals

Look over your shoes too, they may need new heel lifts or a professional cleaning. Oxford laces have a way of growing limp all of a sudden so keep on hand a few fresh pairs of laces for such emergencies.

Around February the gloves you bought at the beginning of the season look the worse for wear. Have yours cleaned or buy a new pair or two, because fingers fumble if one's gloves are ill-fitting or soiled.

Little details of grooming make a great difference between a drab, uninteresting appearance and one of alluring smartness. All women should give these details the consideration they merit.



A wise man coming home late will throw his arms around his wife before she can strike the first blow.

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Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

INWARD MAILS

TUESDAY

Canton

FRIDAY

Straits and Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" (except London) by sea from Singapore.

Canton

Java and Manila.

U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan and Shanghai (San Francisco date, 24th January).

SATURDAY

United Kingdom and Straits.
United Kingdom and Straits.

MONDAY

Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 10th February.
Sandakan

FOR DATE & TIME

OUTWARD MAILS

TUESDAY

Straits, Ceylon, India East and South Africa 10.30 a.m.
Canton 7.00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Air Mail by Sea to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways" K.P.O. & G.P.O.

Reg. 10.00 a.m.
Ord. 10.30 a.m.
Straits and Calcutta.
Parcels 10.30 a.m.
Letters 11.30 a.m.
Straits, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa 3.30 p.m.

FRIDAY

Air Mail by Air to Rangoon to connect with the "British Overseas Airways" K.P.O.

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Ord. 4.30 p.m.
G.P.O.
Reg. 4.00 p.m.
Ord. 4.30 p.m.
Formosa and Dalren 7.00 p.m.
Canton 7.00 p.m.

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G.P.O.

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Ord. 7.00 p.m.

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RADIO

12.28 p.m.—Dvorak—Concerto in A Minor, Op. 53.

1.03 p.m.—Rawicz and Landauer on Two Pianos.

1.15 p.m.—Regimental Band of H.M. Grenadier Guards.

1.30 p.m.—Reuter and Rugby Press, Weather Forecast and Announcements.

1.45 p.m.—Dance Music by Billy Cotton and His Band.

2.15 p.m.—Close down.

5.45 p.m.—Indian Programme.

6.32 p.m.—Haydn—Symphony No. 102 in B Flat Major.

6.55 p.m.—A Song.

7.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.

7.15 p.m.—London Relay—"Questions of the Hour".

7.30 p.m.—Portuguese Programme.

8.03 p.m.—Verdi's "Rigoletto" Act I.

8.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News & News Commentary.

9.30 p.m.—London Relay—Talks "Scots Abroad".

9.45 p.m.—Scottish Country Dance Orchestra.

10.00 p.m.—Musical Comedy Selections.

10.30 p.m.—Latest Dance Music.

11.00 p.m.—Close down.

TEN HOURS WITH TRAPPED GIRL

A LORRY driver tunnelled his way into a cellar where a girl of thirteen was trapped by bomb debris, and lay beside her for ten hours comforting her while other rescuers tried to clear the debris away.

The girl was Peggy Byng. She was the only survivor of a group trapped in the cellar during a heavy night raid on a south coast town.

'ROGUE' BROKE UP HOME, IS GAOLED

A former voluntary shelter marshal, stated to have caused the separation of a husband and wife because of his association with their 16½-year-old daughter, was at Croydon, sentenced to nine months' hard labour on charges of stealing £14 entrusted to him to buy steel helmets.

He was Harry Roland Clarke (39), of Warwick-way, Victoria, S.W.

Detective-sergeant Batch said Clarke, who was divorced, acted as volunteer shelter marshal in Croydon, deputising at times for the district marshal.

Bought Ring

He became friendly with a 16½-year-old girl who was doing volunteer work at the shelter marshal's headquarters, and proposed marriage and bought her a wedding ring.

The girl's father objected to the association, and finally the girl and her mother left the district to stay with Clarke in London.

"Through this man's action, I am sorry to say that the mother and father of the girl, who had been happily married for 30 years, have parted, and there appears to be no hope of reconciliation," said Detective-sergeant Batch.

As Man And Wife

Clarke, he added, borrowed £50 from the girl's mother, and persuaded the girl to cable her uncle in Australia for £50, to be collected by them at Australia House in London.

The uncle sent the money to the girl's home in Norbury, and Clarke and the girl called at Australia House, and were unlucky.

"When I called at Clarke's

Peggy, who was pinned down by debris across her legs for fourteen hours, was described by a fireman as "one of the most marvellous kids I ever saw."

Her rescuer was George Palmer, known as Curly, a lorry driver.

Went Through Flames

With fire raging overhead, Curly tunnelled his way to get to the trapped people, though again and again he was driven back by smoke and flames.

Eventually he heard Peggy call out in answer to his shouts.

When Palmer reached Peggy, she put an arm round his neck and calmly chatted to him.

When the ambulance arrived to take Peggy to hospital, the rescue party called for "three cheers for Curly."

And the only words anyone could get out of Curly were: "I only did my job."

Father's Escape

Peggy had gone to the cellar, with her mother, aged fifty, a sister aged nineteen, and two brothers, aged sixteen and fourteen.

Peggy was the only one who came out alive.

Mr. Isaac Byng, Peggy's father, told a reporter that he had put extra shores into the back cellar and left his family there while he went out for a few minutes.

"When I got back," he said, "I found my house down. If I had not gone out I should have been caught as well, and I now wish I had been."

"We were able to talk to mother and the children until there was an explosion, which caused the fire, and after that we were only able to talk to Peggy."

Mr. Byng has five other children, all boys, who are serving in the Army. Two were home on leave, but were out of the house when it was hit.

address he and the girl were living as man and wife," said the detective.

Sergeant Batch said that in a letter which Clarke wrote to his mother, he stated: "I am married. Yes, I have done it again, but I have made no mistake this time. She's young, she is pretty, and she is well off. In fact, for the first time in his life your son has done himself a bit of good, especially financially."

"I can best describe this man as a plausible and cunning rogue," said the detective.

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BISHOP BARNES HITS OUT

GESTAPO WOULD SHOOT
CEMENT RING

DR. E. W. BARNES, Bishop of Birmingham, made an outspoken attack on the cement monopoly ring when he made a plea for steel and concrete "Haldane" shelters at an exhibition organised by Birmingham A.R.P. Co-ordinating Committee.

Asking why these shelters were not being built, he said, "The monopolists whose companies are now disquietingly prosperous, naturally desire to take no action which would injuriously affect their post-war profits."

"In Germany," he continued, "the chief men of the cement group would be taken by the Gestapo to a concentration camp. A few days later it would be announced that they had been shot while trying to escape. A month later, adequate supplies of cement would be forthcoming."

'Take Over Plants'

Dr. Barnes urged that the Government should take over the cement industry to work to capacity all existing plants and establish if need be new works for the production of vast quantities of cement.

"Far too many of the present shelters are a misery and a menace," he declared.

The Anderson shelter, although amazingly effective before rain came, was soon waterlogged. Brick surface shelters would crumble under a direct hit and loss of life might be great.

COWS HAD BEEN PUT
IN POUND

Sued at Edmonton (London), N.) County Court for £2 damages alleged to have been done by his cows to a neighbour's cabbages and savoy, Mr. George Tuck, a farmer, and a member of Essex County Council, of Upshire Hall, Epping, pleaded that the people bombed out of London damaged his fences, allowing his cows to wander.

Mr. Tuck protested that the neighbour, Charles Wilson, had called a constable and nine of his cows had been driven to a police

TURNED
OUT AT
ALERT

People seeking help at Wandsworth, London, S. W. Town Hall, after their homes had been bombed, are stated in a parliamentary question to have been turned out into the street in heavy rain while the staff went to shelter because of an Alert.

Mr. D. Robertson (Co., Streat-ham) asked if inquiries had been made into the treatment of Mr. Robert Cadzow, whose boarding house was rendered uninhabitable by a bomb in September.

Mr. Cadzow attended at Wandsworth Town Hall on October 2, 9 and 10, it is stated, and was then referred to the Public Assistance Board at Brixton Hill.

But, after waiting hours there in three separate days, his case was not dealt with, mainly because the office was closed during air raid Alerts.

While the staff sheltered inside, people seeking relief were turned out.

According to Mr. Robertson, Mr. Cadzow was then directed to Aylesbury Public Assistance, sent back to Brixton Hill, again sent to Aylesbury and reluctantly given where he should have been sent in the first instance.

Mr. Ernest Bevin, Minister of Labour, states in a written reply that the case is being investigated.

station a mile away, where they were impounded.

The Registrar awarded Wilson £17s. damages and costs.

GERMAN
MAGNETIC
AIR MINE

Details of the German magnetic air mines which, floated down on a parachute as big as two houses, are so sensitive that they will explode on the approach of anyone wearing even a steel helmet, and so lethal that they are capable of razing half a London suburb, are contained in a letter received recently by a resident of Melbourne from a London business man says the Sydney "Morning Herald."

Yet so calm and resolute is the spirit of London that the writer could sit in his office describing analytically and objectively the warfare over Britain while, not far away, this device threatened momentarily to explode and raze hundreds of buildings, his own premises included.

"It is called a time bomb," he writes, "and may be removed in time by a Suicide Squad otherwise the police think it will raze half Stepney, our stores included. We must wait and see, and not get flustered, but hope for the best and believe it will not happen. If Pelham Street and our stocks go sky-high, we should, no doubt, cable you."

Monster Magnetic
Bomb

Then there is a postscript: "The land mine which fell... 40 hours before was removed at 7 o'clock... it was definitely a magnetic bomb, liable to go off at the approach of anyone wearing even a steel helmet. It was 9ft. 6in. high, and floated down on a parachute as big as houses. Because of this thing, from 10,000 to 15,000 people were moved out of their houses. From experience of others that have gone off, they are liable to do very serious damage for a radius of a quarter of a mile, and less serious damage for at least half a mile around. A party of 150 naval experts got on to the thing, and when it had been largely dismantled it was removed to open country at about 60 miles an hour."

The letter, a remarkable personal document, is instinct with the spirit of England. The writer speaks of bombing as a "rotten business," but his comment on its rottenness is that he "feels infinitely privileged to live during a period in the world's history which, I believe, precedes the re-birth of a true Christian era."

Reprisals To Come

The writer discusses frankly the dislocation of normal ways of life, the problems of ensuring adequate rest for his staffs, harassed by night raiders and sirens, and recounts grim incidents of the air war, but distills from it all the essence of victory.

"As we grow stronger in the air," he says, "we shall make the Germans whine with the horror of our reprisal. We have no alternative but to blast that nation into its component parts, to destroy its false gods, to crush utterly all that stands for bullying and gangsterism.... That is the spirit that has been awakened in all of us in England. We may finish without houses, without relations, without business, but we have one goal, one united thought that I cannot believe will ever alter.... We have to clean up the world, and the glory of the British Empire will be acknowledged by every civilised community.... I want to live until the story is told, and the world is refreshed in peace...."

"I have written of only London. Much has happened elsewhere—we do not know how much, nor when it will end. All we know is that the spirit of the people is sound and great. The King said we are a great people. We are. We are magnificent. We grin, and pray, and know we can only die once, if it comes our way, but we as a nation are going to thrash and crush the German.... We shall not crack."

BIG
CHANGES
AT B.B.C.

Important changes in the policy, organisation and personnel of the British Broadcasting Corporation may, I understand, soon be announced. These changes include:

The appointment of a successor to the holder of a high office in the B.B.C.; and

Transfer of the control and direction of foreign broadcasting to the Foreign Office.

Plans now ready will allow longer time to be given to news services to European and other foreign countries and reception abroad to be improved.

Difficulties Overcome

The Government has for some time been dissatisfied with the wireless service to foreign countries, and the problem has been under examination. Various technical difficulties have been encountered, but it appears that most of them have now been overcome.

Special attention has had to be paid to the risk of giving wireless directional guidance to enemy aircraft.

The last extensive reorganisation of the B.B.C. took place in April last year. To meet wartime developments continuous liaison with the Ministry of Information was started, and three new divisions—Programme, Home and Overseas—were created to replace the Programme and Public Relations divisions.

THE SPORTS CLUB.

Selling Lotteries.

REMINDER.

Members are reminded that Selling Lotteries will be conducted at the Club on—

TO-DAY

and
THURSDAY, the 13th,
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MACAO MEET EASTERN AT CAROLINE HILL TO-DAY

Visitors Much Stronger Than On Last Visit

Airosa Will Lead Visitors' Attack

By "Referee"

An improved Macao Football Association team will meet Eastern this afternoon at Caroline Hill at 4.45 p.m. and in view of the great improvement and strides made in Macao during the past year the visitors are expected to give Eastern a good fight.

The visitors will be represented by their best available side and it is interesting to note that several players who came down last season for the Interport game were unable to obtain a place in the team.

At their last meeting in Macao they drew with Eastern when they scored one goal and Macao drew a draw well and a goal. The team of the latter team were unable to obtain a place in the team.

Tomorrow Macao are meeting South China at Caroline Hill at 4.45 p.m.

Airosa, who preferred hockey on the last visit which was played on the same day as the Interport, will lead the attack and he is quite a useful soccer player. He is the most dangerous of the visiting forwards.

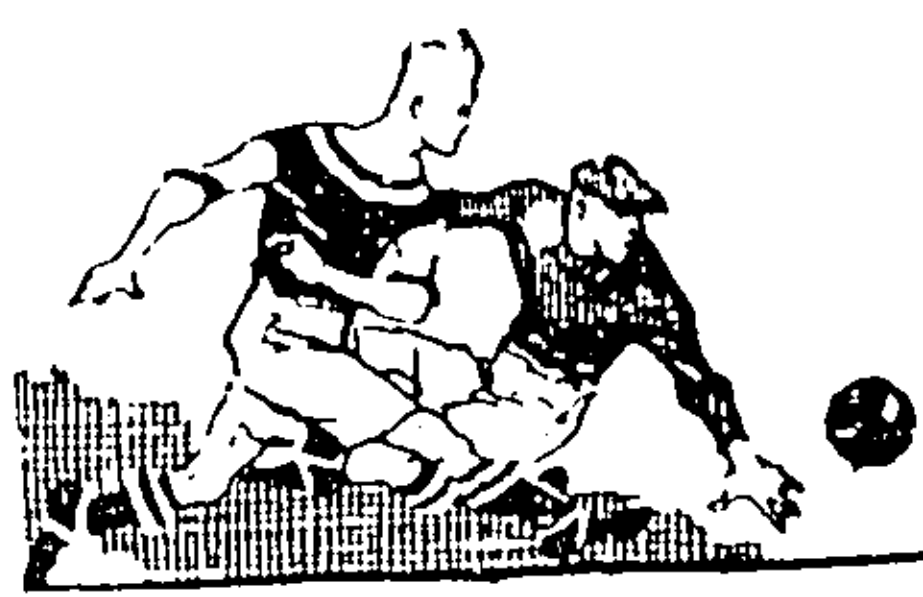
MACAO Carvalho, Cordova and Chiu, Sousa, Colaco and Magalhães, Ipoultou, Airesa, Quereira, Lau Chon-kuan and Chong Han-kong.

Reserves: Mendes, Pimenta and Leandro.

EASTERN Lau Hin-hon, Ng Kee-cheung, S. Y. Yen, Qui Wing-fok, Hsu King-sing, Lo Wai-kuen, Fu Tsuk-ping, Cheung Kam-hoi, V. K. Hyui, C. T. Tsao and Hau Chung-to.

SHIELD DRAW TO-MORROW

The draw for the Second Round of the Shield Competition will take place to-morrow at the Council of the Hong Kong Football Association.



SING TAO VISIT TO MANILA DEFINITE

Sing Tao are leaving for Manila on Monday, February 24, immediately after the Second Round of the Shield Competition and are returning by March 14.

They are arranging that their outstanding game against Club be played before their departure.

INTERPORT PRACTICE

Postponed from last Saturday due to rain, the Probable Interport team, selected for the forthcoming Interport hockey match with Macao, will now meet Indian Army in a practice game on the Club ground on Thursday, commencing at 5 p.m.

DISCARDED WINNING RACE TICKETS

I met a man recently who has a nice little sideline in torn-up winning Tote tickets, writes a correspondent from London.

He reckoned in normal times to pick up an average of £100 worth a season on racecourses.

You wouldn't think anyone who goes racing would discard a winning ticket, but here's a figure that will astonish you.

I am told by a leading Tote authority that since the machine began operations in midsummer 1929, unclaimed winnings amounted to no less than £26,000.

The last Nottingham meeting supplies a good example. Many people who had failed to pick the winner of the second leg of the Tote Double (Steel Blade) threw away their tickets.

It turned out that nobody backed the double, and the machine paid out about £3 to those who had picked the winner of the first leg, Roman Chief.

Where It Goes

Where does the unclaimed \$20,000 go?

Being a statutory body, the Racecourse Betting Control Board are not allowed by law to do what they are quite prepared to do—hand it over to a charity.

Their surplus must go to specified objects—such as needy racecourse executives and the breeding industry.

The Board has always impressed customers that not only should they make sure they have the right ticket before they leave the windows but that they should wait until the "all right" has been signalled before destroying their tickets.

Often officials are confronted with applications from backers who claim they have destroyed tickets in mistake. Whenever there is any evidence to support the claim, payment is made usually about a fortnight after the event, but obviously, the Board has to be careful otherwise they would be faced with an avalanche of false claims.

TO-DAY'S HOCKEY

The Quadrangular Tournament hockey match between Club and British Army will be played at Sookunpoo to-day, kick off at 4.45 p.m.

Following will represent the Club—

Benwell; V. C. Bond and J. Gonsalves; D. McLellan, W. A. Reed and N. B. M. Whitley; D. T. Smith, T. S. D. Whitley, A. E. P. Guest, E. Fowler and R. Soares.

SUNDAY'S HOCKEY

Following are the matches in the Hong Kong Hockey Association Tournament to be played on Sunday—

10.30 A.M.
Police "A" v Punjab
5th A.A. "A" v Nomads
2/M.T.B.'s v Engineers
Destroyers v 5th A.A. "B"
4.00 P.M.
Police "B" v University

WHERE ALL-IN STILL PAYS

Strange as it may appear, all-in wrestling is playing to 5,000 crowds at Belfast and often to capacity house in Blackpool.

A party of young doctors never missed a show. They went for anatomical reasons—to see how far an arm, a leg, or a neck could be bent without breaking.

ARMY SPORTLIGHT

By "SQUADDY"

TO-MORROW evening at Nanking Barracks the first of this season's Army Boxing competitions will take place, when Combined Royal Artillery meet Middlesex in the Semi-Final of the Command Novices Team Boxing Competition. The first fight will be at 8.30 p.m.

This is the first time for a good many seasons that Royal Artillery have participated in this sport, and they have put together a strong team which is out to give the "Middies" a good run.

The winners of this match will meet Royal Scots in the Final on Thursday night.

Both sides have not yet decided on their names for this competition and they will not be able to let their teams be known until after the weighing-in to-morrow morning.

Royal Scots have the strongest team of the three and should be able to pull this competition off for the fourth year in succession.

Middlesex Regt. are holding their Inter-Corps Boxing Openers on February 26, 27 and 28 at Nanking Barracks to select their team for the Command Open Team Competition which will be held at Murray Barracks on April 8, 9 and 10.

In the second division the Engineers and Royal Army Service Corps are fighting it out for League Honours with Sappers being three points ahead, and one game in hand of the Service Corps.

Service Corps are in the lead for the goal-breaking record with 87 goals scored this season so far, and the Sappers have scored 79. The Service Corps have another seven matches to play and the Sappers have eight.

Jennings, of Middlesex juniors, heads the list of goal scorers with 29 goals and is followed closely by Fox of Engineers who has scored 28 goals (both these players are of the junior league). Hendy, of Navy, heads the first Division with 19 goals and Jones, Engineers, heads the third division with 22 goals, and Sgt. Brackenbury second with 20 goals.

Middlesex Regt. this week are going all out to beat the Sing Tao football club in their First Division encounter, who have on two occasions been very lucky to beat the Die Hards this season.

Royal Scots, who have not been so fortunate this season will play the Navy on Thursday at Sookunpoo in the First Division, kick off 4.15 p.m., and Royal Scots juniors will play the 30th Hvy. Bty., R.A. in the Second Division, kick off 2.45 p.m.

Middlesex Regt.'s first eleven should have 18 points in the league table instead of 16 as shown in the week-end papers, these extra two points were awarded to them for the match which they should have played against Kowloon on January 18, with the latter failing to turn up. The first four teams in the First Division should read as follows—

P. W. D. L. F. A. Pts.
Sing Tao 18 13 3 2 47 20 29
S. China 17 13 2 2 50 20 28
Eastern 17 12 3 2 53 27 27
Middlesex 16 8 2 6 33 35 18

This now gives the Middlesex a four point lead over Kowloon who are the nearest rivals in the league, and they should now be able to finish in this position.

We are glad to hear that L/Cpl Bankier, who has been in hospital for the last two weeks suffering from slight concussion, which he received playing against the Chinese in the Lai Wah Cup is now again out of hospital and will be playing between the sticks for the Army against the Civilian in the Final of the Lai Wah Cup next Sunday.

Following have entered for the Cross Country runs which are being held on March 4, starting from the Hong Kong Polo Club ground, Boundary Street, Kowloon.

Entries for the Indian Units' run are—Combined 8th and 12th Hvy. Regts., R.A. and 1st H.K. Regt., H.K.S.R.A.

Entries for the British Units' run have not yet been received but the following are almost certain to enter a team.

Royal Scots, and the Middlesex Regt. have been training for this event during the last two or three weeks, and the Royal Engineers are going to enter a team this year. The Combined Small Units will also enter.

The Runs are open to the following Units.

BRITISH
Combined Royal Artillery, Fortress Royal Engineers, 2nd Bn. Royal Scots, 1st Bn. Middlesex Regt., Combined Small Units.

INDIAN
Combined 8th & 12th Hvy. Regts., R.A., 5th A.A. Regt., R.A., 1st H.K. Regt., H.K.S.R.A., 5/7 Rajput Regt., 2/14 Punjab Regt., Combined Small Units (H.K. Mule Corps and the Indian Medical Corps).

There will be two separate trophies for these two runs, and the Annual Challenge Cup will be presented to the winning team of both runs which has the lowest aggregate number of points, and the other winning team will be presented with another Challenge Cup.

This is the first year that a truly representative Combined Small Units team has been entered for the Cross Country.

Prospective competitors are already training enthusiastically and have already had some enjoyable runs round the Island, and on the Mainland.

Small Units have one or two two dark horses and Sig. Lewis of the Royal Corps of Signals who finished second in the Colony Championships should assist them greatly.

Royal Air Force have one or two possible entries, chief of whom are Cpl. Palmer, and L.A.C. Brown.

In order to pick their final Team the Combined Small Units are arranging one or two competitive runs this month. They have already asked the Hong Kong University for a date, and have arranged for a run against the Middlesex Regt., on February 24.

Combined Small Units are also forming a team to enter the Command Athletic Meeting, and to assist them in selecting their final team they are holding a Small Units Individual Athletic meeting, suggested date being March 10. This should bring Small Units talent to the notice of the Army Athletic Selection Committee who have yet to select a team for the forthcoming team match with the Chinese.

YACHTING RESULTS

The 5th Cruiser Championship race of the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club sailed yesterday resulted as follows:

FIRST DIVISION

Yacht	Finished	Cor.	Pts.
Donna (E. Cock)	15.37.39	10.19.45	29
Norona (P. C. M. Sedgwick)	15.39.47	10.39.47	31
Yehonala (G. W. Bearman)	16.28.03 1/2	16.00.51 1/2	21
Red Rover (B. W. Bateman)	16.50.39	16.07.27	16

SECOND DIVISION

Yacht	Finished	Cor.	Pts.
Evolene (Major G. E. Neve)	17.38.42	16.15.01	22
Tyrone (D. Harschend)	18.25.45	17.13.40	31
Vand I (J. B. Collis)	19.07.44	17.49.54	9

4. TONNERS

Yacht	Finished	Cor.	Pts.
Terh (J. L. Anderson)	17.34.54	16.11.30	20
Typhlog (D. Campbell)	18.53.49	16.46.40	23
Curlew (P. Clarke)	19.19.25	17.22.01	20
Menhaden (B. S. Carier)	20.06.55	17.52.04	23

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Bob Feller Voted Player Of Year By Baseball Writers' Association

ROBERT WILLIAM Andrew Feller, or just plain Bob Feller, who can rear back and throw a baseball with more speed than any other moundman in baseball, is the player of the year — and maybe the player of the era, if it comes to that, writes George Kirksey from New York.

Officially, however, the New York chapter of the Baseball Writers' Association of America has voted the "player of the year" award for 1940 to the Cleveland fireballer and will present a plaque to him at their annual banquet.

Feller was voted the award over the year's two most valuable players, Hank Greenberg, in the American League and Frank McCormick in the National League and the veteran of the year, Freddy Fitzsimmons, Dodgers' grand old pitcher who recorded 16 victories and two defeats.

Greatest Pitcher

Having added poise, and control to his blazing fast ball, Feller has developed into the game's greatest pitcher. Although he's been pitching in organized baseball only five seasons, all of them with the Cleveland Indians, Feller already is beginning to draw comparisons with Walter Johnson, Grover Cleveland Alexander, Christy Mathewson and other pitching immortals. Oldtimers may shudder and say "Tommy Rot . . . There'll never be another Johnson or Mathewson," but when they do they ignore Feller's record achieved with a lively ball.

Despite the fact that he was just a callow youth off an Iowa farm and had to wrestle with the problem of a sore arm in the bargain, Feller hit the high road in his third season with the Indians at the age of 20.

Year	W.	L.	Pct.	E.R.	Avg.
1936	5	3	.625	3.34	
1937	8	7	.563	3.38	
1938	17	11	.607	.08	
1939	24	9	.727	2.85	
1940	27	11	.711	2.62	
Total	82	41	.667		

Feller's victories outnumber his defeats exactly 2 to 1, which is a pretty fair gait for a youngster who didn't reach his 22nd birthday until Nov. 3. For instance, Walter Johnson, in his first five years in the American League, was able to win only half his games, winning 40 and losing 40.

Struck Out 973

In five seasons Feller has struck out 973, sixty-three more than Johnson did over a like period. But Bob has led the American League in strikeouts for the past three years, notching 261 last season. He was easily the dominant pitcher last season, leading his league in seven statistical departments, including most games won, earned runs, strikeouts, most innings pitched, most complete games, most games and most batters faced. He shared one of the

other two titles, most shutouts, with two others, and failed only to win the percentage crown, finishing third to Schoolboy Rowe and Buck Newsom.

The only black mark on Feller's 1940 record was the fact that he didn't improve one whit all year. He pitched a no-hit, no-run game in the opener against the White Sox, and never was able to get that good again. However, he pitched a one-hitter, a two-hitter, three three-hitters and two four-hitters.

And with it all Feller conducted himself with unassuming dignity even through the period of the rebellion against Oscar Vitt, in which he was a minor figure. Baseball has no greater figure than the blue-eyed smooth-skinned boy from Van Meter, Iowa.

Previous Winners

Previous winners of the New York Baseball Writers' "player of the year" award follow:

- 1931—Bill Terry.
- 1932—Lou Gehrig.
- 1933—Herb Pennock.
- 1934—Carl Hubbel.
- 1935—Dizzy Dean.
- 1936—Hank Greenberg.
- 1937—Tony Lazzeri.
- 1938—Joe DiMaggio.
- 1939—Jimmy Foxx.
- 1940—Bucky Walters.

SCHMELING REFUSED LEAVE

Max Schmeling, former heavyweight champion of the world, was recently denied a furlough by the Nazi army so that he might accept a challenge by Heinz Lazek, of Vienna, for the heavyweight title of Europe.

The army announced that Schmeling's "parachute training has reached a stage that demands extreme exertion and most intense concentration." This was interpreted in sports circles as meaning that extensive operations by Nazi parachute troops are in the offing.

Schmeling's wife said "Max will fight soon but not in the boxing ring."

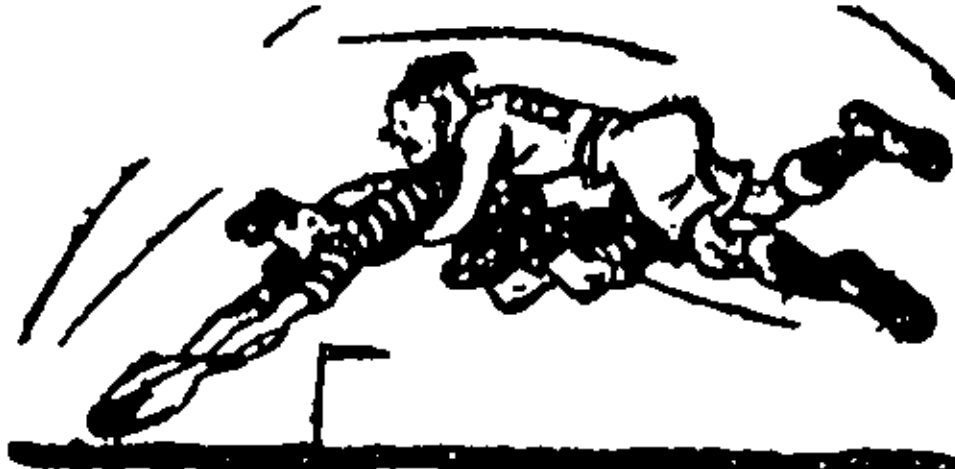
STABLES MOVED TO WILTSHIRE

RACING CIRCLES AT HOME are humming with reports of a surprise move by one of its most distinguished owners, Lord Glanely.

He is said to be sending a number of his best young horses to Wiltshire to be trained by Joe Lawson.

JOCKEY CLUB DECIDES TO HOLD MEETINGS

The Jockey Club, at its meeting last month, decided to run most of the principal races during the first half of the present season, thus, the rumours that there would be no racing in England this year, are not correct. Among the principal races are The Grand National at Liverpool and the Derby at Epsom. — Fleet News.



GUNNERS' RUGBY TEAM

In their rugby match against Royal Scots at 3 p.m. to-day at Sookunpoo, Royal Artillery will be represented by:

2/Lieut. Fairclough; Sergt. March, Capt. Skipwith, Gnr. Keeble, L/Bdr. Richards; Capt. Hook, Gnr. Dobbins; 2/Lieut. Bompas, Sergt. Hicks, Gnr. Cook, L/Bdr. Evans, 2/Lieut. Delderfeld; L/Bdr. MacDermott, 2/Lieut. Eddison, 2/Lieut. Heath.

Reserves:—Gnr. Turner, Gnr. Easterbrook, 2/Lieut. Claque.

Richards Fans Interested

If the change-over takes place an interesting sequel could be the revival of an old and successful association between Gordon Richards and Lord Glanely when the champion jockey's commitments make it possible for him to ride Manton horses.

Gordon won "Legers" for Lord Glanely on Singapore and Chulmleigh and the Oaks on Rose of England.

But it is not only Gordon fans who will be watching with interest developments in the present situation.

If it happens it does not, of course, mean Mr. Jarvis is retiring from training, but as he is not actively concerned in National Hunt sport he is unlikely to turn out any runners until the return of Flat racing next spring.

It is hoped the National Hunt Committee take a census of owners' and trainers' opinions on the advisability of centralising racing this winter, and, if possible, extending it more to Southern tracks.

Not Only Instance

Lord Glanely's decision to migrate his racers from Newmarket towards the West country is not an isolated instance of this move westward, and we shall hear more of animals going West and North if the National Hunt Committee and Jockey Club feel it is incumbent on them to continue keeping their fixtures from the South.

In the opinion of one race follower every Saturday and most Mondays should be utilised as fixture dates, and Cheltenham should take the place in National Hunt sport held by Newmarket on the flat and have a fair sprinkling of mid-week fixtures, each of two days.

There is no doubt about the popularity of steeplechasing at Cheltenham, where the attendance at a recent meeting was the most satisfactory and noteworthy since the restart of sport under either code.

GRAPHIC GOLF



ARM VS. ARM AND BODY ACTION

By BEST BALL

From the above illustrations it is not difficult to view the power and precision which comes from employing body motion as compared to the use of arm and hand action only. The lower player, with his feet so wide apart as to prevent body turn or any weight transference, is solely dependent for his clubhead velocity on the momentum his arms and wrists can generate. Furthermore the swing is such that the arc of the clubhead comes down abruptly and rises abruptly, making it necessary that the ball be hit at the lowest point for the shot to be successful.

Jimmy Thomson, upper figure, on the other hand, uses the full power of his body, in addition to hand and arm action. This body turn allows a rather flat arc, the clubhead travelling close to the ground and able to contact the ball at any point with considerable success. Because of the combined body and arm action, the clubhead is travelling with great momentum when it contacts the ball.

Next Article:—Gaining Good Wrist Action.

BIG CHESS UPSET

(BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT)

The first major upset in the current Colony Open Chess Championship occurred last night when L. Karpovich, making his first appearance in the Tournament, defeated C. M. Sequeira, Colony champion on six occasions.

Sequeira, having the black pieces, played the Nimzowich defence to white's queen's pawn opening. A weak move shortly before the adjournment last Thursday night placed him at a positional disadvantage, and Karpovich made the most of the situation to secure a pawn.

A forced exchange lost Sequeira a second pawn and eventually a third. Playing brilliantly in an end game of four pawns against seven, each player also having a rook, Sequeira managed to reduce the pawn margin to one but could not stop a passed pawn.

The game, played in two sessions, lasted 6¼ hours.

Karpovich now leads in the tournament after two rounds, being the only player to win both his games. E. Zimmern has 1½ points, Sequeira and Coxhead one each, D. E. Carvalho ½ and K. Weiss 0.

CIVIL SERVICE TEAMS

The following will represent the Civil Service C.C. at League cricket on Saturday:

1st XI v. Indian R.C. (Home):—J. E. Richardson (Capt.), K. J. Atwell, F. Baker, W. H. Colledge, T. V. N. Fortescue, B. C. K. Hawkins, R. H. Griffiths, D. McLellan, A. E. Perry, N. Whitley and A. M. J. Wright.
2nd XI v. Kowloon C.C. (Away):—H. E. Strange (Capt.), G. Aldridge, J. Barrow, H. F. Harper, F. E. Lawrence, J. Mitchell, J. F. McGowan, T. Lockhart, N. L. Smith, G. Stone, A. Watson.
Reserve:—G. Davidson.

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'VARSITY 'B' AGAIN BEAT CHINESE 'Y'

Chinese Y.M.C.A. lost to University 'B' 3-8 in the "A" Division of the Badminton League at Bridges Street last night.

C. Au and H. Koh (Chinese "Y") beat M. P. Yoong and Y. P. Yoong 21-8.

lost to C. K. Lee and S. L. Yung 12-21.

lost to K. B. Low and S. Amplavanan 14-21.

F. Koh and C. Y. Yung (Chinese "Y") lost to Yoong and Yoong 9-21.

lost to Lee and Yung 21-24.

beat Low and Amplavanan 23-21.

T. C. Lau and P. M. Wong (Chinese "Y") lost to Yoong and Yoong 13-21.

lost to Lee and Yung 11-21.

beat Low and Amplavanan 21-12.

RELATIONS WITH RUMANIA BROKEN OFF

Black-Out Restrictions In Bucharest Tightened

DARLAN APPOINTED PETAIN'S SUCCESSOR

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Reports from Vichy state that Marshal Henri Petain has appointed Admiral Darlan as his successor in case of his disability to continue his duties as head of the Vichy Government. — International News Service.

Senate Approves Winant

The United States Senate has unanimously confirmed the nomination of John Winant, as United States Ambassador to Britain.

The appointment of Mr. Alexander Biddle, former Ambassador to Poland, as United States representative to the exiled Governments of Poland, Belgium, the

Note Handed To Antonescu On Situation

IT WAS OFFICIALLY announced in Bucharest yesterday evening that the British Minister in Rumania, Sir Reginald Hoare, had presented the Rumanian Government at mid-day a Note demanding his passports.

Sir Reginald hopes to leave with his full staff of fifty in the first available boat on or after February 15.

It is also confirmed in London that the British Government has decided to withdraw the British Minister in Bucharest.

Official circles in London point out that German troops began to arrive in Rumania some months ago.

At this time, the head of the Rumanian Government informed the British Minister that these troops had come to Rumania in order to instruct the Rumanian Army in the modern methods of warfare.

This instruction had no doubt been imparted, but subsequent developments showed that the German High Command was building up in Rumania all the elements of an Expeditionary Force and had concentrated at various strategic points large

quantities of munitions and oil fuel.

As Military Base

Rumanian territory is thus being used by Germany as a military base in the furtherance of her plan for the prosecution of the war.

These steps are being taken without any word of dissent from the Rumanian Government.

In these circumstances, the position of the British Legation has become impossible and Sir Reginald Hoare has been instructed to withdraw his mission and Consular officers under his control. This withdrawal will take place within the next few days. — Reuter

No Action In London By Rumania Yet

The Rumanian Legation in London has hitherto received no instructions from Bucharest about withdrawing from London.

Reuter's diplomatic correspondent learns that the decision whether the Legation is to withdraw naturally lies with the Rumanian Government and if General Antonescu, the Rumanian Premier, instructs the Rumanian Charge d'Affaires to ask for his passports there will be no difficulty about the departure of the Rumanian Mission. — Reuter.

Stricter Black-Out

Stricter black-out precautions are to be observed in Bucharest, state reports reaching London.

All electric signs, brightly lit shop windows, and lights showing in houses, are strictly forbidden. Citizens are advised to get a supply of torches and candles in case of an emergency.

The Rumanian Air Force, according to an American correspondent in Ankara, is now 100 per cent. under Nazi control.

Information received in London states that German soldiers stationed in Rumania are being issued with civilian clothes and sent to Bulgaria as tourists.

STABILISATION FUND EXTENSION

Mr. Morgenthau stated yesterday that he is preparing to ask Congress for a four years' extension of the \$2,000,000,000 stabilisation fund, according to the Washington correspondent of the Dow Jones Agency. — Reuter.

SHIPPING WARNING

Vessels navigating or lying at anchor in the examination area at the Western entrance to Souda Bay are warned to keep a sharp lookout for floating mines. Should mines be sighted, a report is to be made to the pilot of the examination vessel.

Growing Italian Shortage

Careful piercing together of the Italian Government's measures on the economic front gives a clear picture of dwindling supplies, rising prices, transport difficulties and civilian deprivations.

Cereals, fats, charcoal, raw cottons, rubber, leather and petrol are among the commodities in short supply.

The census of main foodstuffs ordered for mid-January is believed to provide a basis for a new system of rationing by Provinces so as to make the best use of local production and reduce transportation to a minimum.

A cash bonus has been offered to charcoal producers for the first three months of this year.

Limitations have been imposed on the consumption of raw cotton, wool and leather, only standard types of shoes are to be manufac-

PREMIER SURPRISES BERLIN

Mr. Churchill's reference to Bulgaria on Sunday has caused a sensation in Berlin, according to the Berlin correspondent of the newspaper "Nya Dagligt Allehanda."

Competent quarters in Berlin, the correspondent says, deny that German troops have entered Bulgarian territory.

The Berlin correspondent of the newspaper "Aftonbladet" says that German authorities maintain there is not a single German soldier or airman in Bulgaria. — Reuter.

tured, a motor tyre census has been ordered and the small civilian petrol ration has been reduced by thirty per cent.

Clothing price increases have been repeatedly prohibited, standard shoes must have the prices marked thereon, the retail prices of charcoal and the wholesale prices of potatoes have been fixed. — British Wireless.

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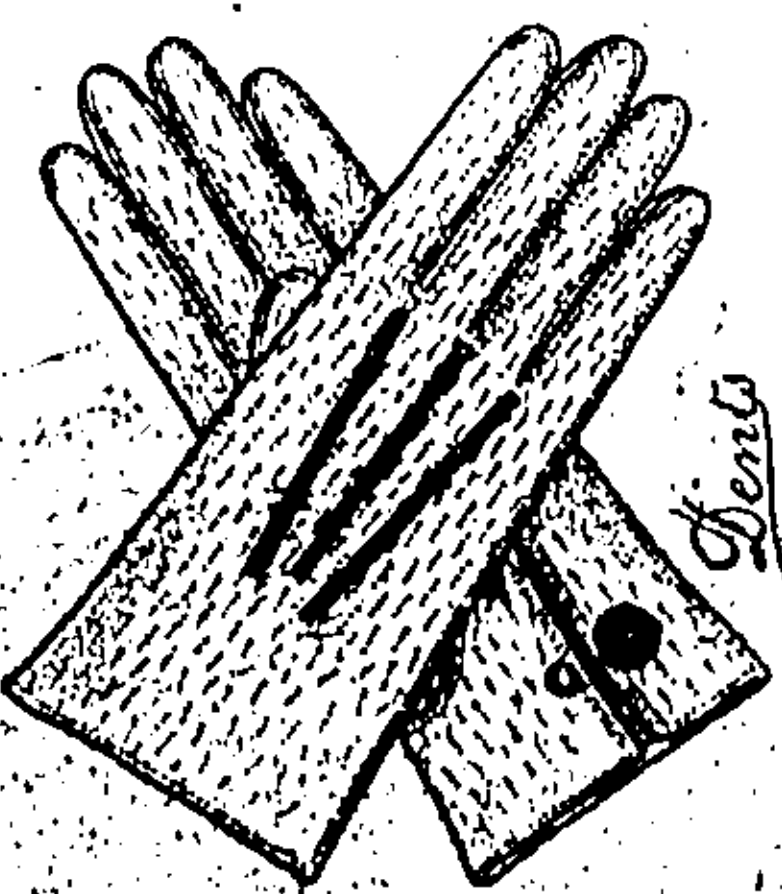
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THOUSANDS OF NAZI TROOPS ON MOVE INTO BULGARIA

FRANCO OLIVE BRANCH STORY

'Serenity' Of Italy Puzzle

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Strange stories are in circulation regarding the trip of General Franco and Senor Serrano Suner to Italy.

REPORT THAT THEY WERE VISITING HITLER AND RIBBENTROP THROUGH VICHY HAS BEEN DENIED BY VICHY AND IT IS NOW SUGGESTED THAT THEIR REAL MISSION IS IN ITALY.

And that they may be the means of mediation between Italy and Britain to take Italy out of the war.

What foundation there is for speculation on these lines cannot be discovered in official quarters, but the fact that General Franco is personally making a somewhat spectacular trip, crossing Southern French territory on his way, apparently, to Rome, has given rise to many rumours, chief among them, as stated, being of Spanish mediation in the Italo-British conflict.

Informed quarters in Vichy predict that Marshal Petain, who was until the German breakthrough at Sedan, French Ambassador to Spain, and who has recently been in close contact with General Franco, plans an important step in the immediate future.

Diplomats say they are puzzled by the "strange serenity" of the Italian press despite the Libyan defeats.—International News Service.

DINNER TO DR. CURRIE

Dr. Wang Chung-hui, Minister of Foreign Affairs, will entertain Dr. Lauchlin Currie, President Roosevelt's personal representative, and Mr. Emile Desores, research official of the Economic Division of the U.S. Federal Reserve Board, at a dinner party on Friday evening.

Others invited include Mr. Nelson T. Johnson, U.S. Ambassador to China, and all other members of the U.S. Embassy in Chungking. Mr. Chang Kia-ngau, Minister of Communications, Dr. Wong Wen-hao, Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr. Chang Kai-ngau, Minister of Education, Mr. Wei Tao-ming, Secretary-General of the Executive Yuan, and Dr. Hsu Mo, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs.—Central News.

TOBACCO BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN

Believed to be instigated by Wang Ching-wei followers, an attempt is being made in Shanghai to boycott British and American cigarettes among the Chinese.

Clubs and cabarets in the Chinese areas have been ordered to stock only cigarettes manufactured in Shanghai.—Our Own Correspondent.

Bombs On Rumania Oilfields Likely

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

THE BALKANS AREA HAS SUDDENLY BECOME THE FOCUS OF WORLD ATTENTION, AS PROBABLY THE STAGE UPON WHICH THE NEXT WAR ERUPTION WILL BE SET, IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE DEVELOPMENTS LEADING TO BRITAIN'S SEVERANCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH RUMANIA.

The Press Association in London yesterday indicated that the use by the Germans of the Rumanian airfields, as the Nazi invasion springboards, would almost certainly mean retaliatory action by the Royal Air Force.

Rumania's neighbours, Bulgaria and Turkey in particular, are feverishly preparing for the conflict, and precautionary measures are being taken in Yugoslavia.

an attack would be a severe blow to Germany.

Hitler's Hordes

Nevertheless, there are indications that Hitler is bent on pushing through his programme in the Balkans and it is reported that half a million German troops are massed on the Hungarian frontier, ready to move into Rumania.

Big troop movements are proceeding under the first complete Rumanian black-out which was ordered by General Antonescu early yesterday morning, just before receipt of the British Note.—International News Service.

WEATHER REPORT

The Royal Observatory reports that the anticyclone is moving Eastward and pressure is highest over Manchuria, Korea and the adjacent seas.

AMERICAN QUEST FOR PLAN FOR SANE WORLD

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

IT IS AUTHORITATIVELY disclosed in Washington that President Roosevelt is entrusting Mr. John Winant, the new Ambassador to Britain, with a special mission.

Mr. Winant is expected to leave for London in a few days and his special task, beyond his normal ambassadorial duties, will be to persuade leaders of British political thought to accept what is described as America's plans for a "sane policy for lasting peace" after the war is over.

The plan contemplated by the President envisages the establishment of an International Society of Mankind, based upon economic as well as political democracy.

The International Society of Mankind constitution, as it were, would call for social justice, and economic security, for the vanquished as well as for the victors.

Detailed Plan

The State Department, it is disclosed, has already completed studies with a view to the drafting of a detailed plan which could form the basis of discussion and international agreement.

IT IS HINTED THAT THE COMPLETED PROPOSALS WOULD REPRESENT AMERICA'S ALTERNATIVE TO THE "NEW WORLD ORDER" OF THE DICTATORSHIPS.

Every nation joining the international society would guarantee economic security, freedom of religion and freedom of speech.

Work For All

The plan also envisages vast public works programmes, internationally financed, for the defenceless as well as the victorious nations, to meet the unemployment problems which it is feared are certain to arise on demobilisation.

The restoration of Mr. Cordell Hull's reciprocal trade programme on an international scale and the international exploitation of colonial possessions represent other features of the plan.—International News Service.

The "Daily Express" reports that thousands of German soldiers in civilian clothes are moving in armoured trains from Rumania to Sofia.

It is reported, but the report lacks confirmation, that the Greek Legation in Sofia has been recalled by the Government in Athens.

It is believed that the Rumanian oilfields will be the first target of any British bombing. Such

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NAPOLEON OF AFRICA

Exclusive Interview With General Wavell



WHEN THE GUARDS ARE ON PARADE—The Coldstream Guards in their battledress, but there is no mistaking the traditional smartness. (Copyright, Fox).

Four Prime Factors In Libya Victory

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

By the International News Service Correspondent With the British Imperial Forces in the Middle East.

GENERAL SIR Archibald Wavell, whose triumphs in the last few weeks have captured the imagination of the whole world, gave me an exclusive interview to-day in which he declared that the allied victories in Albania and North Africa had profoundly influenced the ultimate outcome of the war.

Reserved and unassuming, the General whom war correspondents in Cairo now term "The Black Continent's Napoleon," declined to accept the full credit for the brilliant achievements of the Army of the Nile.

He insisted that only the streamlined teamwork of all branches of the fighting services made the triumph possible. "They executed my plans," he said, "with amazing talent, initiative and daring."

Four Factors

"The factors in the victory were fourfold.

"First, the excellent manner in which the Army, the Navy and the Air Force cooperated.

"Second, the excellent work of Generals Wilson and O'Connor (commanding the Indian troops which first entered Sidi Barrani, starting the sweeping drive to Benghazi).

"Third, the astonishing way in which the front line fought. Their courage and endurance in the face of exceptional hardships was outstanding.

"Fourth, the magnificent backing up by the supply services,

which worked with the regularity of a chronometer."

Tribute To Greeks

General Sir Archibald Wavell also poured lavish praise on the grand efforts made by the Greek forces, who had gained signal triumphs, the more brilliant because so unexpected.

"These victories of the Greeks," said General Wavell, "are not of mere local significance by any means. They have influenced the general outcome of the war. Greece has done magnificent service to the allied cause."—International News Service.

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VICHY CABINET RE-SHUFFLE

According to a despatch from Vichy to the official German news agency quoting well-informed circles, a complete reshuffle of the Vichy Cabinet will not take place before the middle of the week.—Reuter.

EX-SOVIET ARMY CHIEF FOUND SHOT DEAD

General Krivitsky, who has been found shot dead in Washington is stated to have been once Chief of the Secret Police in Soviet Russia, according to Mr. Louis Waldman, an attorney.

The general is said to have been going under the name of Samuel Ginsberg.

Mr. Waldman said he had obtained this information from detectives who told him General Krivitsky shot himself, but the attorney did not believe this.

General Krivitsky, he said, had been cooperating with the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation.

He came to the United States several years ago and later visited England but returned to America last October.

General Krivitsky gave evidence in October 1939, before the Congressional Committee on un-American activities.

On that occasion Krivitsky had said that he had broken with Stalin because he had refused to take active part in the purge in the Communist Party during 1936/37.—Reuter.

GREEK REJOICING

MR. CHURCHILL'S SPEECH, FOLLOWING GREAT BRITAIN'S SUCCESS AT BENGHAZI AND AT GENOA, HAS SENT A WAVE OF ENCOURAGEMENT THROUGHOUT GREECE, SAYS A MESSAGE FROM ATHENS.

The Greek newspaper "Estia" says "the speech contained important facts, disclosing a most hopeful situation in the Mediterranean."

Mr. Churchill's eloquent words about Mussolini are echoed by tens of millions of free men and will be repeated even in Italy.—Reuter.

ST. SOPHIA CATHEDRAL BOMBED

A message from Athens reports that the fifth-century Cathedral of Saint Sophia at Salonika was damaged by an air raid on Sunday.

The Cathedral is to be repaired immediately, following orders issued by the Greek Prime Minister, M. Korizis.

One part of the building has almost entirely collapsed but the mosaics of the cupola have not suffered much.

The British Consul at Salonika was present when crowds massed around the Cathedral after the all-clear signal had been given and demonstrated against this "act of vandalism."—Reuter.

FROZEN ASSETS IN AMERICA

Foreign assets valued at 4,369,000,000 U.S. dollars are "frozen" in the United States, according to the U.S. Treasury estimate.

These assets belong to countries which are completely or partially occupied by Germany, with the exception of 29,000,000 dollars, belonging to Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, which are now incorporated in the Soviet Union.

Figures given for other countries are: France, U.S.\$1,583,000,000; the Netherlands, U.S.\$1,612,000,000; Denmark, U.S.\$382,000,000; Norway, U.S.\$178,000,000; Belgium, U.S.\$170,000,000; Luxembourg, U.S.\$85,000,000; and Rumania, U.S.\$50,000,000.—Reuter.

Military Governor Of Cyrenaica Appointed

DEATH SENTENCE QUASHED

Mrs Dorothy Pamela O'Grady, who was previously sentenced to death on charges under the Treachery Act yesterday heard Lord Caldecote, in the Court of Appeal, announce that conviction quashed but, on other charges, sentence of 14 years' penal servitude was imposed.

Both the trial at Winchester and the appeal were held in camera. Reuter.

NEW POINT OF ATTACK IN ERITREA

The British occupation of Mersa Taclai and Korara in Eritrea was announced in a Middle East General Headquarters communique.

Meanwhile pressure on enemy positions about Keren is being continued.

South African troops have now advanced 50 miles inside Italian territory in Southern Abyssinia in the Hobok area.

The communique adds that the clearing up of areas up to El Agheila in Libya is proceeding satisfactorily and that intensive activity in Italian Somaliland continues. Reuter.

On The Sea Coast

MERSA TACLA, WHICH HAS BEEN OCCUPIED BY BRITISH FORCES, IS A VILLAGE ON THE RED SEA COAST, FORTY MILES FROM THE BORDER BETWEEN THE SUDAN AND ERITREA. KARORA, A SMALL TOWN, LIES INSIDE THE ERITREAN BORDER FORTY MILES INLAND.

It is pointed out in London that this advance into Eritrea from the North would appear to constitute a new movement as yesterday's communique was the first to mention any movement in this direction. Reuter.

ROYAL NAVY PARALYSING ITALIANS

According to the naval correspondent of the Swedish paper "Stockholm Tidningen," the British fleet is the foremost cause in the apparent paralysis of Italy.

The correspondent declares that it is not known whether the Italian Fleet and Air Force have taken measures to deal with attacks like that on Genoa. But it is given that one cause of impression of the paralysis gained during the last three months is probably the shortage of fuel and the foremost cause is the evidence of the British Fleet. Reuter.

SIR MAITLAND WILSON TAKES CONTROL

IT IS OFFICIALLY announced in Cairo that Lieut.-General Sir Maitland Wilson has taken over the command of Cyrenaica, as Military Governor and General Officer Commanding in Chief.

General Wilson has issued a proclamation calling on the population for discipline and to obey the orders of the military authorities.

A political branch has been set up in Cairo at General Headquarters to deal with all questions affecting occupied territory and its administration.

The appointment of General Wilson and the creation of a political branch of G.H.Q. means that the establishment of an administration for occupied territory is in accordance with International Law.

It is pointed out in Cairo that the military occupation has no bearing on subsequent disposal of the territory or rectification of frontiers which are matters to be decided at the peace conference.

Command Relinquished

To take over his new appointment, General Wilson has relinquished command of the British troops in Egypt.

His successor is likely to be announced in a few days. Under General Wavell, General Wilson has taken an active part in the British drive into Libya. Reuter.

PREMIER SURPRISES BERLIN

Mr. Churchill's reference to Bulgaria on Sunday has caused a sensation in Berlin, according to the Berlin correspondent of the newspaper "Nya Dagligt Allehanda."

Competent quarters in Berlin, the correspondent says, deny that German troops have entered Bulgarian territory.

The Berlin correspondent of the newspaper "Aftonbladet" says that German authorities maintain there is not a single German soldier or airman in Bulgaria. Reuter.

ITALIANS DENY ATTACK

IN REPLY TO THE UNITED STATES' PROTEST AGAINST THE BOMBING OF THE AMERICAN MISSION IN THE ANGELO-EGYPTIAN SUDAN LAST AUGUST, THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS DENIED THAT THE ATTACK WAS MADE BY ITALIAN PLANES. IT WAS ANNOUNCED IN WASHINGTON LAST NIGHT.

It declares that, according to a report received by the Italian East African High Command, "the bombardment of the Mission, as broadcast by the British, is insofar as we are concerned, unfounded." Reuter.

VICHY'S NATIONAL COUNCIL

The new French consultative body, the National Council, will, according to "Noeuveliste de Lymen," meet for its inaugural session at Lyons, but will later continue its work at Vichy where it will be in closer touch with the different ministries.

The newspaper understands that at the first meeting, Councilors will agree on the list of names to be submitted to the head of the State with a view to the establishment of a Bureau for the Assembly.

The list will be immediately communicated. Reuter.

DARING THEFT AT MAGISTRACY

The pockets he could have "picked" at the Kowloon Magistracy yesterday were many, but he turned his nose up and ignored them all.

Whether he was a modern Robin Hood, taking only from the well-to-do, or just after something bigger is not known.

Anyway, he passed through the entrance of the Magistracy, picked his way through the crowds, apparently never even casting a glance at their pockets and walked in the direction of Mr. K. M. A. Barnett's office while this Magistrate was engaged in Court.

Nobody saw him enter the Magistrate's office and the loss of a watch, valued at \$157, was only discovered when Mr. Barnett returned.

The police were immediately informed, and the usual check was made at pawnshops.

The watch was later recovered from one of the pawnshops in the Yaumati District not far from the Magistracy, but the culprit has not yet been traced.

LITTLE NAZI AIR ACTIVITY

An Air Ministry and Ministry of Home Security communique states: "There was very little enemy activity over this country during daylight yesterday. No report of damage or casualties has been received. British Wireless.



The Lord Mayor of London recently paid a visit to the East End of London where he was met and escorted around the damaged areas by the Mayors of the districts. Photo shows the Lord Mayor (left) chatting to the children of the district. (Copyright, Fox.)

GIFTS TO RAID DISTRESS FUND

The Lord Mayor of Brisbane has sent another £5,000 to the Lord Mayor of London's National Air Raid Distress Fund, bringing the total of Brisbane's contributions to £112,200.

Other gifts included £1,000 from Cape Town, £500 from the Philippine Islands, £247 from Panama, and £100 each from St. James, Manitoba, and the Government and people of Port Moresby, Papua. The total of the Fund is now £2,117,000. British Wireless.

U.S. IN EARNEST

In Washington yesterday, Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, said at his press conference with reference to Mr. Winston Churchill's plea "give us the tools and we will finish the job," that he and others were earnestly urging full production with all possible speed so that, in accordance with Government's primary policy of safety for the United States, the maximum military supplies would be produced for the United States and Great Britain. Reuter.

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Extensive R.A.F. Raids In Middle East

ATTACKS ON CALATO and Maritza on the Island of Rhodes and a successful night raid on Tripoli were recorded in yesterday's communique from Royal Air Force Headquarters.

A Middle East communique says on the night of Sunday-Monday, aerodromes at Calato and Maritza were raided by bombers of the R.A.F.

Bombs were dropped on a number of aircraft dispersed on the landing ground at the former place, causing heavy explosions and two large fires, believed to be enemy aircraft.

Aircraft from the Fleet Air Arm, the same night carried out a successful raid on Tripoli, bombs falling on a seaplane station where a hangar was set on fire.

In Italian East Africa, continued support was given to the army offensive. Keren was raided repeatedly and much damage was caused to stores and motor transport.

Dogfight At Asmara

At Asmara, South African fighters encountered a number of Italian planes, one enemy machine being shot down and several others badly damaged. Meanwhile, R.A.F. bombers raided the town of Asmara.

When enemy aircraft attacked the occupied aerodrome at Agordat, one Italian plane was shot down by anti-aircraft fire. Further, South African bombers effectively attacked Badana, Afmuda and the fort at Todenying.

In Albania

In Albania, a small formation of R.A.F. fighters, on patrol in the Keyley area on Sunday, intercepted a large number of enemy fighters. In the ensuing engagement, four Italian planes were shot down and several others so badly damaged that it is unlikely that they returned to their base.

One British pilot had to abandon his aircraft but made a successful parachute descent and returned unharmed to the squadron.

Malta Raid

During the same night, a considerable force of enemy aircraft raided Malta.

Damage was caused to private property and a few civilians were injured.

Two German aircraft were shot down and others probably damaged.

From all these extensive operations, four British aircraft failed to return but one pilot is safe.—Reuter.

GANGSTER GAOLED

BEFORE MR. E. HIMSWORTH AT KOWLOON THIS MORNING, LI NAM, 19, WAS SENTENCED TO FOUR MONTHS' HARD LABOUR AND RECOMMENDED FOR BANISHMENT FOR DEMANDING \$1 BY MENACES FROM LAU WAN, 35, DAIRYMAN, ON SUNDAY.

It was stated that while he was in a tea house in Kowloon City on Sunday, Lau Wan was struck several times by accused, who asked him what "Society" he belonged to. Accused told him to join his "Society," demanding \$1 as subscription fee.

As complainant had no money with him, he arranged to meet accused at the same place next evening.

He returned to his home and told his brother, who had accused arrested the following night.

MAGIC STUDIO

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Heavy Albania Fighting

Another Italian counter-attack against newly won positions in the Klissura area has been driven back with heavy losses to the Italians, according to the Greek press, reporting a military statement broadcast by Athens yesterday.

The statement says: "Like previous attempts, this attack was completely smashed and the Italians beaten back in great disorder."

It adds: "The situation on the Albanian front continues to be highly satisfactory. Further vantage points have been secured by Greek forces particularly on the Central front."—Reuter.

Four Attempts

Four Italian counter-attacks have been repulsed in the last twenty-four hours.

Reports from Athens reaching London state that two of these counter-attacks took place west of the River Drin where Italian infantry had been ordered to penetrate the Greek lines but failed owing to the violent Greek fire, leaving behind many dead and wounded.

Another of the counter-attacks was attempted in the region of the Klissura sector.—Reuter.

ORIENTAL THEATRE ROBBERY

Sentence of three months' hard labour was imposed by Mr. H. G. Sheldon, K.C., this morning, on Ko Shu-pui, 17, for breaking into the Oriental Theatre on Sunday.

Defendant, a former employee of the Theatre, got into the main office at about 11.15 p.m. on Sunday, when the Theatre was about to close. Defendant was left inside and stole a table fan, a dozen tins of Brasso and other articles and broke down the office door to escape.

Detective Sergeant J. Bentley prosecuted.

BUREAU' RAIDED 'ESCORT

Alleged to be a well-organised prostitutes' lodging house, No. 8, Chi Woo Street, ground floor, was raided by the police last night, resulting in the discovery of 21 girls.

As a result, Wong Sum, 32, described as a telephone attendant, was charged before Mr. K. M. A. Barnett at Kowloon this morning with keeping a prostitutes' lodging house.

According to accused, the establishment was an escort bureau at which he was employed at \$15 per month. The place was under his charge while his master was in Macao.

The prosecution agreed that the establishment was working on the escort bureau system and that the girls were sent out to various hotels on invitation.

Accused who appeared on \$250 bail, was fined \$150 and sentenced to one month's hard labour.

HEAVILY FINED TREE VANDALS

Heavy sentences were imposed by Mr. K. M. A. Barnett at Kowloon this morning on two persons charged with unlawful possession of pine tree wood.

Wong Kau, 27, who had 192 cattle of wood in Pak Tin Village, was fined \$100 or two months' hard labour, while a similar sentence was inflicted on Hong Yiu-wah, 33, who was found with two four-inch pine trees in Taipo Road yesterday.

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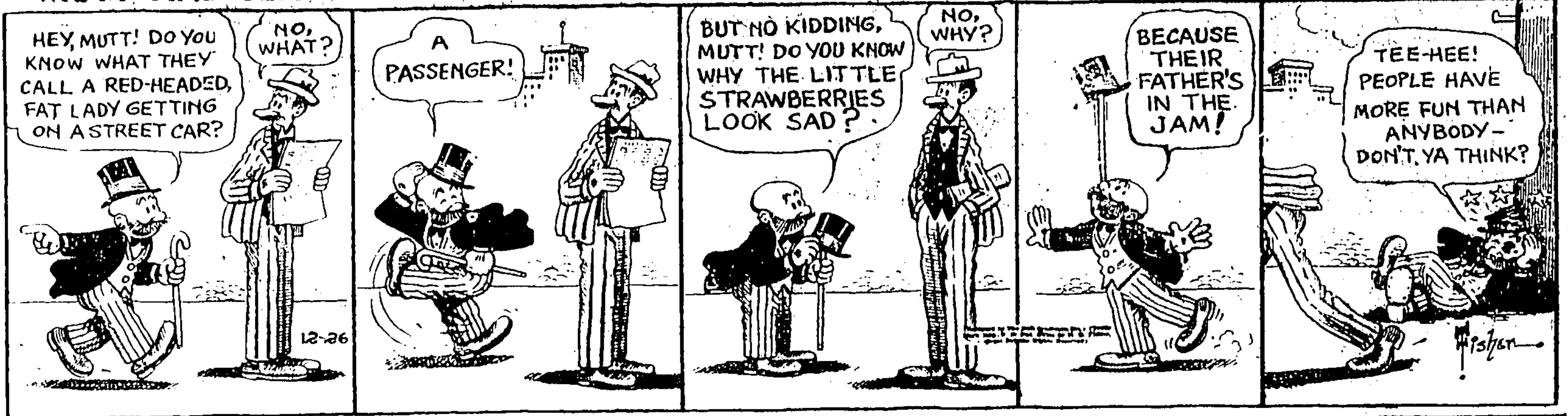
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TORPEDOING OF GERMAN DESTROYER

Details are now given of an air operation announced yesterday morning in which a German destroyer was torpedoed.

The Air Ministry communique states: "In the course of reconnaissance and patrol operations by aircraft of the Coastal Command yesterday, attacks were made with torpedoes on enemy destroyers off the Norwegian coast. One enemy vessel was hit amidst ships."

A single aircraft of the Bomber Command carried out an attack on the oil tanks at Flushing, the docks at Antwerp and other objectives in enemy-occupied territory.

In the early hours of this morning, forty aircraft of the same Command bombed enemy bases on the coast of North-West Germany.

From all these operations, one of our aircraft is missing. British Wireless.

PILOTS ARRIVE FOR SPRING ATTACK

ONE OF THE LARGEST batches of air trainees from Australia, New Zealand and Canada, were welcomed in Britain yesterday by Lord Cranborne (Dominions Secretary) the High Commissioner for Canada, Mr. Vincent Massey, the High Commissioner for Australia, Mr. S. M. Bruce, the High Commissioner for New Zealand, Mr. W. J. Jordan, and Captain Harold Balfour (Under-Secretary of State for Air).

The contingent from Canada included British who had been trained in that country under the Empire Air Training Scheme and Australians and New Zealanders whose training had nearly been completed in their own countries and who, with the rest of this contingent, will be posted direct to an operational training unit.

Many are pilots and all are members of air crews.

Lord Cranborne, welcoming them said: "You have come just at the right moment, because by all appearances, the Spring campaign is nearly upon us and I am

quite certain you would not wish to miss that.

Noble Company

"You have come to join a very noble company and I am sure you will add to it further lustre and fame."

"You have been trained under the Empire Air Training Scheme which is not only one of the most impressive examples of Imperial cooperation but also one of the most important, for even though it is still uncertain that air power alone can win this war, it is certain that it must play a vital part in winning it."

"That has been made clear by our experience in Dunkirk, in the Battle of Britain and in the recent weeks of Libya."

"I can imagine nothing could be more exasperating or discouraging to Hitler and his collaborators than to see this steady, increasing and inexorable wave of the finest pilots in the world coming steadily across the Atlantic to our shores, not only to defend this island, but to strike continued and increasing blows at vital parts of Germany." — British Wireless.

N.Z.'S WAR WORK

The manufacture of munitions has become an important part of New Zealand's war work, said Mr. Sullivan, New Zealand Minister of Supplies yesterday.

Production covers Bren-Gun carriers, trench-mortars and bombs, including high explosives, steel-helmets and small arms munition.

Minesweepers are being built and an improved type will soon be produced.

After the report of British experts, it is expected that Britain would establish programmes suitable for New Zealand's fulfilment.

The New Zealand Government is conducting an intensive operations scheme for the training of munition workers. — Reuter.

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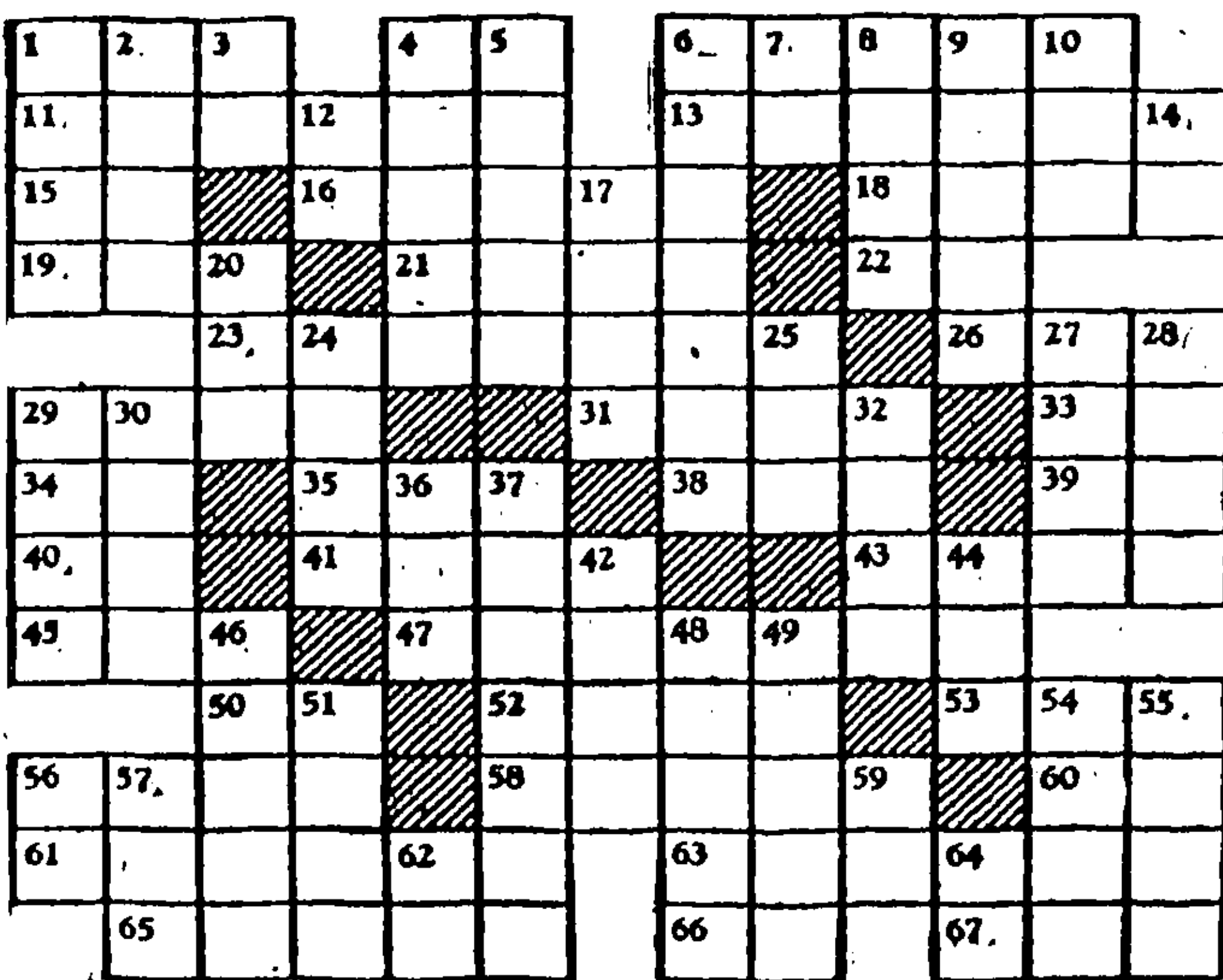
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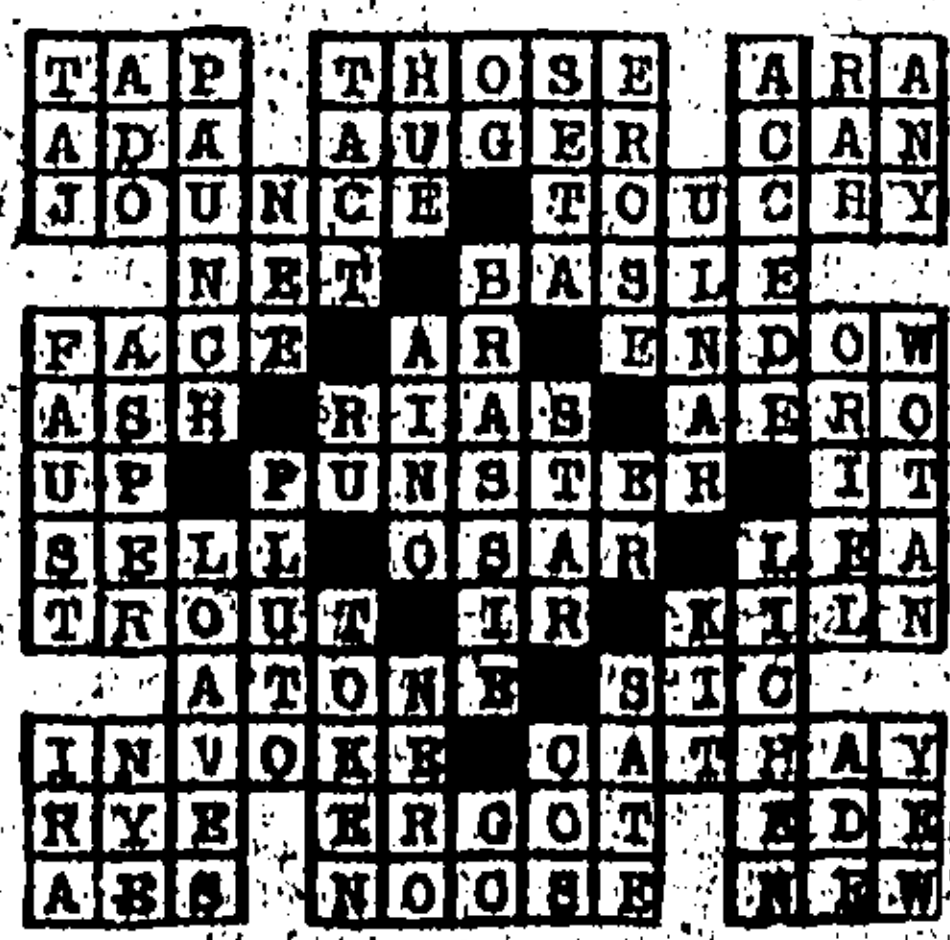
HORIZONTAL

- 1 Eggs
- 4 Brother of Odin
- 6 Banquet
- 11 Picture drawn with coloured crayons
- 13 Supreme dominion
- 15 Article
- 16 Tilled land
- 18 To leave out
- 19 To allow
- 21 Let it stand
- 22 Note of scale
- 23 Odious
- 26 Resident of a convent
- 29 At any time
- 31 Allquance for waste
- 33 Colloquial: father
- 34 Prohoun
- 35 Time gone, by
- 38 Head organ
- 39 Sacred Hindu word
- 40 Pronoun
- 41 Well-mannered
- 43 English queen
- 45 To take unlawfully from
- 47 German secret police

VERTICAL

- 2 Gem
- 2 Windmill blade
- 3 Since
- 4 Russian measure of distance
- 5 To excite
- 6 Salient point
- 7 Printer's measure
- 8 Footless animal
- 9 Simpleton
- 10 Prefix: three
- 12 Symbol for tantalum
- 14 Latin for "and"
- 17 Skillful
- 20 Article
- 24 Islands off Ireland
- 25 Meadow
- 27 Proposition
- 28 Title
- 29 Mohammedan prince
- 30 To forbid
- 32 Snare
- 36 Fish-spear
- 37 Nautical
- 42 Serf
- 44 To bow
- 46 Llama
- 48 Trunk of the human body
- 49 Iron block used for forging metal
- 51 Death notice
- 54 City in Spain
- 55 Table-land
- 56 Part of "to be"
- 57 Border
- 58 Teutonic deity
- 62 Idol
- 64 Exist

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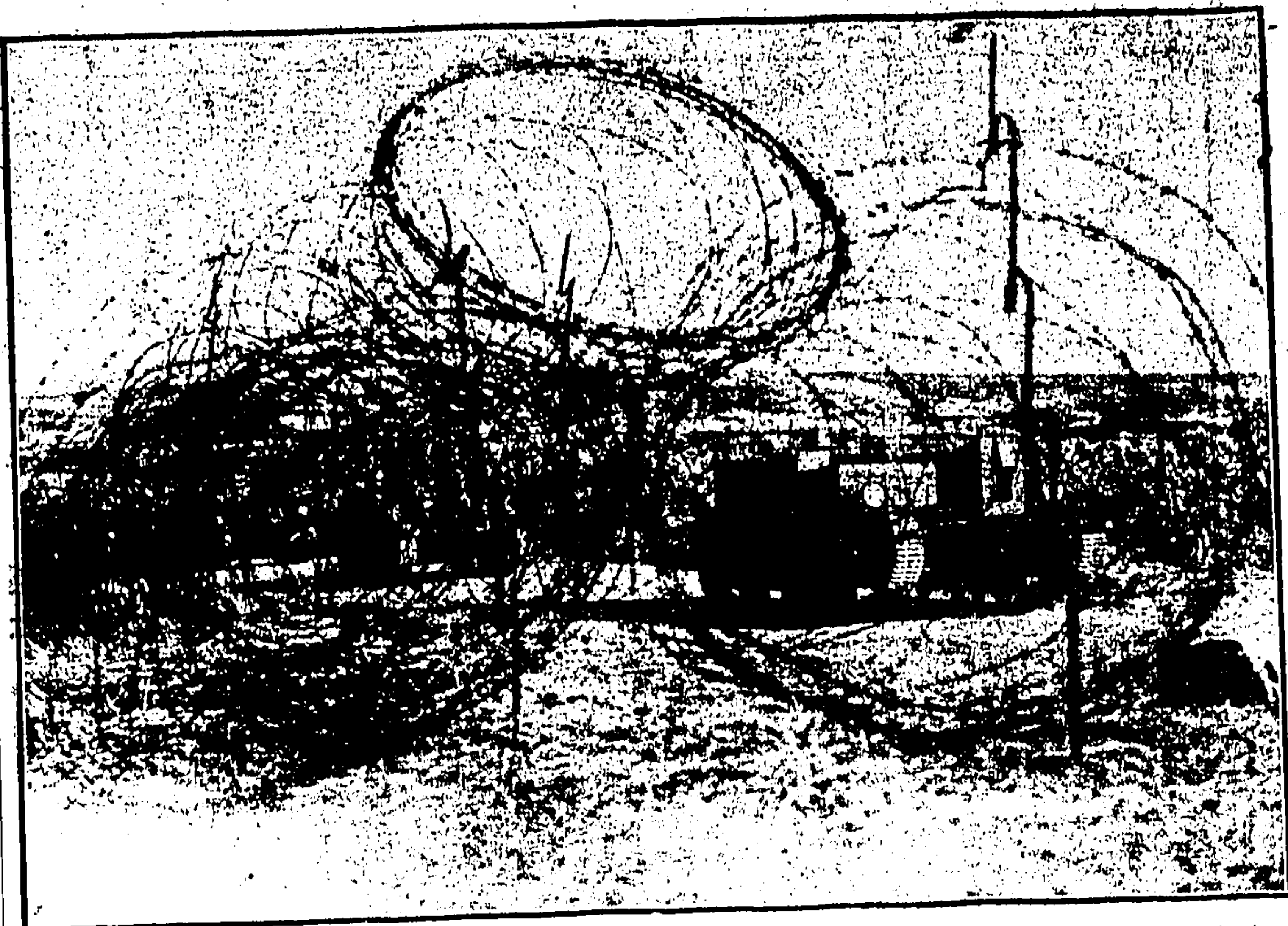


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A new-angle view of Bren carriers passing along a road and photographed through barbed wire during defence. (Copyright, Fox).

IMPLACABLE WILL OF BRITISH EMPIRE TO VICTORY

MR. CHURCHILL'S speech had a world audience and the American press response is unanimous in hailing it as Britain's implacable will to victory.

The New York "Herald-Tribune" says that the speech carried with it a new hint of offensive power. Was it conceivable that America could refuse to supply machinery, ships, aeroplanes, guns and tanks which would give victory that would make them masters, and not cringing victims, of Hitler. It was not conceivable.

The "Washington Post" said that the speech united England and the Commonwealth as no Prime Minister had been able to before in a single speech. Mr. Churchill's voice over the radio ran the gamut of every mood except despair.

The "North Carolina Morning Herald" said that the speech was without vainglory and yet full of pride. "It will long be remembered."

Americans throughout the country heard the speech which went far to allay the fears of people in the United States concerning involvement in the war by the Lease and Lend Bill.

The "New York Times" says, "We in America need not fear that the final plea will go unanswered. Americans will put their confidence in Mr. Churchill and his countrymen and will equip them with the tools, as he said, to finish the job."

Mr. Sol Bloom, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the House of Representatives, said, "It was a superb message and a complete assertion that democracy is still more than a match for the dictators."

Magnificent

Senator Carter Glass said, "It was magnificent. It was a darned sight better speech than anyone in the Senate would be able to make against the Lease and Lend Bill."

Mr. Albert Warner, commentator of the Columbia Radio network, said, "It was a moving appeal that Mr. Churchill made to the United States. It was characterised by confidence and sober determination and by great restraint. It has brought a new prestige here."

The German broadcast fastened on to Mr. Churchill's reference to the four squares at Waterloo as an excuse for more praising of

the valour of German soldiers in that battle.

Well Doctored

The Italians had the speech well doctored and the only sentence which was published was "the events in Libya are only part of the story." But what Mr. Churchill really said was "the events in Libya are only part of the story of the decline and fall of the Roman Empire."

The Sofia Radio devoted eight minutes to the speech but omitted all references to Bulgaria.

An American correspondent from Ankara writes that so called Nazi tourists in civilian clothes are increasing every day in Bulgaria. On the Rumanian side of the Danube pontoon bridging equipment is now openly exposed.

Inspired denials have been put forth in Sofia of Mr. Churchill's statement that German troops are already moving in Bulgaria.

New Zealand's Congratulations

"Our thoughts and prayers are with you always," cabled Mr. Fraser, Premier of New Zealand, sending his heartiest congratulations yesterday to Mr. Winston Churchill on his "splendid address."

"Its inspiring and heartening character will strengthen the will, fire and spirit of all British peoples throughout the world in the determination to complete the task to which they have set their hand," cabled Mr. Fraser.

Mr. Fraser also cabled congratulations to General Wavell from the Government and people of New Zealand on the capture of Benghazi.—Reuter.

STOCKHOLM AND NAZI MOVE IN BALKANS

Mr. Churchill's speech was printed in full in the Stockholm newspapers. Headlines were specially emphasising with reference to the Bulgarian aerodromes being occupied by German ground personnel.—Reuter.

Growing Italian Shortage

Careful piercing together of the Italian Government's measures on the economic front gives a clear picture of dwindling supplies, rising prices, transport difficulties and civilian deprivations.

Cereals, fats, charcoal, raw cottons, rubber, leather and petrol are among the commodities in short supply.

The census of main foodstuffs ordered for mid-January is believed to provide a basis for a new system of rationing by Provinces so as to make the best use of local production and reduce transportation to a minimum.

A cash bonus has been offered to charcoal producers for the first three months of this year.

Limitations have been imposed on the consumption of raw cotton, wool and leather, only standard types of shoes are to be manufactured, a motor tyre census has been ordered and the small civilian petrol ration has been reduced by thirty per cent.

Clothing price increases have been repeatedly prohibited, standard shoes must have the prices marked thereon, the retail prices of charcoal and the wholesale prices of potatoes have been fixed.—British Wireless.

CHINA MAIL
WINDSOR HOUSE

DOUBTFUL ASSET

Manchukuo has long ceased to be one of the world's key news centres. Information from this Japanese dependency is scanty and usually unimportant. But an attentive study of the Japanese press, which is still franker and more informative than that of the European totalitarian states, shows that this economically backward country has been driven too hard by its Japanese military masters, with the result that serious inflationary symptoms have appeared and a considerable curtailment of ambitious production plans for the current year has been necessary.

Manchukuo is a pivotal partner in the so-called yen bloc, the other members being Japan itself and the occupied North China. Early in the year the Japanese Government worked out a plan for investing 1,200,000,000 yen there in 1940. In return Manchukuo was to concentrate on coal, steel and power industries, all capable of serving military ends, and to increase shipments of coal, iron, and farm products to Japan.

Neither side, however, was able to live up to the terms of this bargain. The Japanese capital market is so choked with issues of war bonds that it proved impossible to raise the projected amount for investment in Manchukuo, and exports from Manchukuo to Japan fell off instead of increasing. This was partly because Japanese monopolistic control of farm products has discouraged production and partly for lack of necessary raw materials.

Another retarding factor in the progress of Manchukuo is the growing inflationary trend. Official figures usually understate rather than exaggerate unfavourable financial and economic developments. But on the basis of Manchukuo official figures one learns that the wholesale price index in Hsinking, the capital of the new state, has more than doubled between 1936 and 1940, while the cost of living in Hsinking has more than doubled between 1937 and 1940.

One of Japan's contributions to genuine well-being in Manchuria, a stable currency, has thus been sacrificed to military and industrial expansion. Effective development of Manchukuo seems impossible while Japan's re-

Of course the North has had it pretty badly. That is obvious to anyone from the communiques. Few days pass without reports of raids on Merseyside, "North-West" or "North-East" towns or the "South-West" or "South-East" of Scotland, all officially vague but generally identifiable, keep on recurring.

So a tour of the bombed areas of the North might seem like jumping, if not out of the frying pan into the fire, at least out of the fire into the frying-pan. I can honestly say, however, that the only night's sleep I missed through raids during a fortnight's tour of investigation for the "Daily Herald" was when London was being heavily bombed. That was because I stayed up all night in the Manchester office keeping in touch with my colleagues who had "gone to ground" in London under terrible bombardment. There were warnings but without the "drummings" which would disturb a seasoned campaigner like myself. "Seasoned" that is, by being in London during the first five weeks of the Blitzkrieg. Indeed the most trying part of the tour was the ordeal of travel—ten hours from Euston to Manchester, and fourteen hours from Manchester to Glasgow. And in neither case was the delay due to enemy action. They first was caused by the runaway luggage barrow which derailed an express train and in the other a wayward waggon which broke loose.

Almost as trying was the effort to avoid seeming callous and unkind. It is not easy to tell people who have had repeated raids that, by comparison with London, they scarcely know what bombing means. Yet that is true of every part of the North which I visited. Even Merseyside, which has passed its 200th raid and which next to London, is the most heavily bombed part of the country, cannot be compared with anything in London. Its raids have been mainly during the past 10 weeks. Yet I question whether the total damage of the cities and towns of the Mersey is a third of that in any one of the riverside boroughs. Apart from extensive fire damage to warehouses in one part of Liverpool, which was restricted by the fire-services and which certainly had few dislocating effects, the bombs have been dispersed and, as usual, working-class districts have suffered. But a colleague in Liverpool had to act as a guide to enable me to find the damage and, because clearance of debris had been more rapid and thorough than in London, to tell me what was bomb-destruction and what was normal demolition.

Scotland's Quota

From a record which I have seen of the number of bombs dropped in Scotland during 13 months of war, including the attacks on Scapa Flow, I should say that it is not as great as the total for any week in London since September 7th. Newcastle, as one official there put it, has "scarcely even been dented" despite persistent attempts.

As for Manchester it is still at the "gather-round-boys-and-hear-about-my-bomb" stage. Any bomb within a mile is a "near-shave" and when I told them that in London we wore lapel-buttons with "I'm not interested in your bomb" on it they took it not as a joke but as an insult. Indeed the only place where, so far, I have sensed anxiety was in Manchester. There was certainly none in Liverpool, for instance, where the people are as solid and as stolid about the raids as they are in London.

In Glasgow, I was introduced as "an unskilled member of the London Scottish, just back from the front line" and found that, at public dinners they were coupling with the toast of the Army, Navy and Air Force "and the people of London." But I found too that they were thinking of the Battle of

sources in capital and material are so heavily mortgaged for the war in China. And, while there have been no recent reports of major political unrest in Manchukuo, the nationalist discontent of its Chinese population can only be aggravated by a shaky currency and a rising cost of living.

The War In The North Of Britain

London as we used to think of the Siege of Madrid—something magnificent but some way off. That is a matter for concern. With the lesson of London before them, local authorities must imagine the worst and then add a margin to it.

Reassuring

Most of what I found was reassuring. The arrangements for dealing with the homeless, one of main preoccupations, in each place were certainly encouraging, although nowhere, not even on Merseyside, had they been put to

By Ritchie Calder

the same desperate tests as in London. Nor had the plans, which were, on scrutiny, admirable, been improved in the light of London's experience. Liverpool, galvanised by the dynamic personality of Mr. Molyneux, its P.A.C. Officer, made the arrangements, which I saw, eighteen months ago. Just as the A.R.P. services have their control-rooms, so has the Liverpool welfare services. The "control" is in a subterranean office, linked to the other services so that an "incident" is immediately notified, and to its centres for dealing with the homeless throughout the city. In it hangs an "Operations Map" with multi-coloured studs marking the sites of the various area offices, rest centres and auxiliary centres, any one of which can be called instantly into action.

In case "H.Q." should be bombed this control room is reproduced in, and synchronised with, four other Area H.Q.'s, one of which would immediately take over. Each of these Area H.Q.'s is equipped with emergency stores of blankets, bedding, food and so on, even to baby's feeding-bottles and diapers, as well as with cooking facilities (not forgetting field kitchens in case the gas or electric supplies fail) and hot containers for transport. That is in case any of the food and rest centres, equipped and provisioned in the same way, should ever be over-taxed or new centres should have to be called into commission. Corporation kitchens provide the hot meals.

No Grapes Of Wrath

Finding homes or billets has not, so far, presented any difficulties and if they should arise Liverpool is prepared to meet them by drastic requisitioning. But I was encouraged to find that Liverpool does realise that the homeless are casualties and require as kindly handling as though they had lost a limb instead of a home. The Assistance Board and Billeting Officers go to them and there are no "Grapes of Wrath" wanderings from one department to another.

My heart warmed to Mr. Molyneux, the official who acts righteously first and argues financially afterwards. And it warmed, too, to Capt. Embleton, Chairman of the Newcastle A.R.P. committee and Deputy Controller. To Capt. Embleton, Newcastle owes its "Relief Officers." These are those "Welfare Officers" (as I prefer to call them) who, I have suggested, should move into the scene of the bombings alongside the "Incident Officers" who direct the A.R.P. Services. They gather up the homeless, make them feel befriended and cared for, tell them exactly what can and will be done for them, in the way of finding new homes, getting compensation and so on, and take them, by coach if need be, to the Food and Rest Centres. The need for such officers was so forcibly illustrated by the hapless people who were left wandering among the ruins of their London homes, that I felt sure that Newcastle had taken the lesson from them. But no, the system had been in existence for months before London was heavily bombed.

Resent Anonymity

Switching back to Merseyside, Birkenhead, until my visit, had been of those anonymous "North-West Towns" and the folks had resented it; they were

rather proud of the way they had behaved under bombs. I was able to say that they had been bombed and how well they had dealt with their homeless. It is rather nice because, although it was a case of organisation, the spirit is neighbourliness. Everybody, including the officials, seems to know everybody else by their Christian names. It comes in useful in finding homes. The Billeting Officer is not billeting; he is finding new homes and furnishing them, with the matey cooperation of the Assistance Board officials and the help of the Mayor, Mr. W. H. Egan, who had got hold of furniture and stored it throughout the town. The officer knows his people well enough to say, "Oh, Myrtle couldn't go to Such-and-Such a Street, she'd not get on with Mrs. Brown. But she'd be all right alongside Mrs. Smith."

Manchester and Glasgow both have highly developed and well-conceived organisations for dealing with the homeless. Both had been planned well ahead. But the finest rest centre which I have seen was in Newcastle. It is asking almost too much but I wish it could be the model for the other parts of the country. It started off with the advantage of being the palatial mansion of a coal-and-finance magnate, with solid walls that might have been built to withstand a siege. Its stately, panelled ballroom has been set aside as the dining-hall ("refectory" would be more apt) for the homeless. Other rooms have been converted into cheerful bedrooms, filled with inviting truckle beds. There are showers and hot baths. Every room has a coal fire (important alike for cooking and heating) but hot-water bottles are provided. The capacious cellars and vaults have been turned into air-raid shelters, heated by the hot pipes of the central-heating system. Newcastle goes on the sound principle of getting the homeless out of the Rest Centres as soon as possible into homes or billets. That is wise, because of the risks and the discomforts of the average Rest Centre. But I should not worry unduly about those who might, by unforeseen reasons, be stranded there. They would be comfortable and safe.

Rest Centres

That kind of house is not found conveniently close to bombed working-class areas as a rule, but they are to be found in outer suburbs of towns, relatively safe, and lending themselves to adaptation. Since it is so essential to get people clear of a bombed area as soon as possible, why not transfer people from "Front Line" Rest Centres to hostels such as that one, assuming similar shelter accommodation?

Another main concern was the shelter-problem. And in most places I found cause for misgiving. Until people have experience of all-night raids, the need for dormitory shelters does not come home very forcibly. Once they have to contemplate the possibility of spending a freezing winter's night in an Anderson, a surface or a basement shelter, people begin to understand lots of things which have happened in London. Everywhere in the North there is agitation about deep shelters. The Communists are "cashing in" and, of course, rousing all kinds of political resistances.

Swears

Most ordinary people in the North, and in Scotland, would swear by their "Andersons" if they did not have cause to swear at them. But in Manchester, for instance, I found women bailing out the water preparatory to bedding down their children for the night. One woman took over 40 bucketfuls out of her's. In many cases I found that the shelters had been sunk into the land-drainage ducts or with complete disregard for the obvious nature of the soil. The clamour, including deputations to the Corporation and the "ambush" of Sir Harry Haig, the Commissioner, by women, when he visited a housing estate, is for proper water-proofing. The excuse is, as always, lack of cement. But what about tarmac and bitu-

men and other waterproofing agents?

In Liverpool, the surface shelters are "well-patronised," but I have seen enough samples of materials used in the structure of some of them to know that many of them ought to be, and must be, condemned. In Glasgow controversy rages over deep shelters. The exponents are not confined to the Communists. Far from it. Personally, I did not mean to get embroiled. I took a detached view. I was given details of "work done" and "work in hand," but what impressed me a great deal more was direct observation. I know the Glasgow slums and the working-class tenements pretty well and, without official escort, I went to see for myself. The conclusions were disturbing. Baffle walls at the open mouths of the entrances to tall tenement buildings do not seem good enough to me. Even if I accepted the safety-factor, I know these "closes" on a winter's night and I would no more shelter in them than in a refrigerator. Alternative surface shelters seemed far from adequate.

Glasgow Sleep

Glasgow is a city of indispensable workers. They need sleep. Where will they get it if all-night raids start? They themselves will tell you "in our beds." Lots of us vowed that once, I was told that deep shelters in Glasgow are impossible. I was even told that the City was "built on rock." So I went to my friends the geologists, Glasgow, they assured me, is largely built on "drumlins," little hills of boulder clay. Tenement streets climb steeply up and down them. Lanarkshire has miners, Scotland has brilliant mining engineers. I think there is a job for them.

Edinburgh I found alive and alert on the shelter problem, although with a lot to do. It is, like Glasgow, a city of tall, solidly built stone buildings. Some of them have stood three hundred years and more. But Edinburgh has houses built on steep slopes and, consequently to reach street level they have as many as three layers of cellars. It is estimated that 80,000 people could be accommodated in one kind of basement or another. To provide dormitory deep-shelter for workers a stretch of deep railway tunnel is being taken over. Caves on the outskirts are likely to be converted and as far as I could judge, the authorities would be open-minded to any deep-shelter suggestion.

Newcastle Medal

It is Newcastle, however, which deserves the medal. Without waiting for grants it provided for 2½ miles of admirable deep shelter, in which, as Embleton said: "You can walk to safety." True, that tunnel was a "gift." It was a coal-haulage way, 60 to 80 feet underground. The City converted it. And it would not acquire particular merit for doing something so obvious, if it had not shown real imagination as well.

For example, there is a culvert, carrying a stream for three-quarters of a mile underground. It is a spacious culvert. Newcastle turned it into one of the finest deep shelters in the country—by the simple device of flooring it over well above spate level. And the result is a commodious, clean, naturally ventilated, well-lit, well-equipped shelter, capable of sleeping thousands.

Again, the Corporation had sanctioned for a new drainage scheme. The Engineer was told to make the drain big enough and deep enough underground to make into a shelter, its drainage function being postponed for the duration.

A mine "drift" is being converted, to provide deep shelter for workers who need dormitory accommodation.

And there is another scheme so ingenious and yet so obvious that the censors will not let me mention it because it would provoke the bombers. It is true that Newcastle has used existing facilities, but it has also used its brains.

What I have tried to impress upon everyone whom I have talked to in the North is that the lesson of London has to be learned quickly or it will be learned tragically. The Battle of London is only a phase in the wider Battle.

HITLER SCHEMING CO-ORDINATED ATTACK

Britain Watching Mediterranean And The Far East

IMMIGRATION CONTROL NET SLIPPED

That the newly enforced Immigration Regulations have somehow been disobeyed and that at least one person had entered the Colony from Shayuehung without a permit without even having been noticed by the authorities, was revealed in a case before Mr. K. M. A. Barnett at the Kowloon Magistracy this morning.

The revelation came about when Chung Yung, 35, charged with keeping a brothel, admitted to the Magistrate that he had only been in the Colony about one week.

Questioned, he stated that he had no permit from the Immigration Department when he entered the Colony on board a steam launch, owned by the Ying Kee

FRANCO, SUNER IN ITALY

According to reports received from Spain in London last night, General Franco and Senor Serrano Suner, the Spanish Foreign Minister, are to meet Herr Hitler and von Ribbentrop.

A news agency said a New York from Rome stated that General Franco and Senor Serrano Suner arrived yesterday at San Remo, in Italy. — Reuter.

Company, from Shayuehung. Pleading guilty to keeping the brothel, accused was fined \$30, or six weeks' hard labour, and ordered to be expelled.

The Magistrate instructed the prosecuting officer to take the prisoner to the Immigration Department for the purpose of making investigations into the revelation.

ENDORSEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER IN HIS BROADCAST ADDRESS OF THE C.I.G.S., SIR JOHN DILL'S WARNING THAT STRATEGIC, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL STRESSES IN EUROPE MAY FORCE HITLER TO ATTEMPT INVASION IN THE NEAR FUTURE, HAS FOCUSED ATTENTION IN THE PRESS ON THE DIPLOMATIC AS WELL AS THE MILITARY ADVENTURES IN WHICH THE NAZIS ARE ENGAGED IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD.

Belief is growing that if the invasion is, in fact, attempted, it will not be an isolated adventure.

Developments in Italy make it increasingly clear that Germany, with her growing grip on Sicily, recognises the importance of balancing a movement in Northern Europe with an attempt to disturb Britain's supremacy in the Mediterranean.

In the phase of greater violence which, in the view of Mr. Churchill, the war is entering, there is no longer any serious attempt on the part of Germany to disguise the fact that preparations for the movement of German troops into or through the Balkans is contemplated.

Developments in Rumania have reached a stage at which the withdrawal of the British Minister at Bucharest has been deemed necessary, and the significance of Mr. Churchill's statement that Bulgaria's airfields are being occupied by German ground personnel, needs no emphasis.

Contemporaneously with these developments, German efforts to make use of Japan to aid the Nazi plans are being persistently pressed, regardless of the fact that her Far Eastern Axis partner accedes to the pressure it will spell ruin for Japan.

Japan's Truculence

There is abundant evidence that these efforts in the diplomatic field are directed towards urging a friendlier relationship between Russia and Japan as the preliminary to a Japanese drive southward.

Although in London it is well known that the more sober elements in Japan are deeply disturbed at the prospects, the truculence of the attitude of certain Ministers towards the United States and Britain has, at times since the signing of the tripartite agreement, displayed a recklessness which suggest that the full dangers of the situation are not fully appreciated in Tokyo.

It is a situation which is being carefully watched in London.

Complete confidence is felt that any development that may occur as a result of the yielding by the Japanese to Nazi pressure, will not find Britain unprepared. — British Wireless.

BROKERS ON BAIL

TWO BROKERS, WAN CHI-WONG, 31, AND LI PING, 37, WERE CHARGED BEFORE MR. C. T. LOWRY THIS MORNING, WITH ATTEMPTING TO STEAL WOLFRAM ORE BY MEANS OF A TRICK.

Mr. C. A. S. Russ is prosecuting, and Detective Sergeant T. Cashman appeared for the Police. It was alleged that defendants tried to obtain wolfram ore, valued at over \$3,000, from Hui Shing, accountant of the Tung Shing Loong Firm in Cheung Chau. The case was adjourned to February 18, and bail of \$2,000 each was allowed.

ALLEGED GANG OF SHOPLIFTERS

A CASE IN WHICH A MARRIED WOMAN AND THREE GIRLS, INCLUDING TWO JUVENILES, WERE CHARGED WITH STEALING FROM SHOPS IN NATHAN ROAD ON FEBRUARY 5, WAS OPENED BEFORE MR. E. HIMSWORTH AT KOWLOON THIS MORNING.

All accused, who appeared on bail, pleaded not guilty through Mr. Percy Chen, instructed by Mr. S. K. Lau.

Det. Sgt. Estall, prosecuting, alleged that accused in a group of four, visited various shops in Nathan Road, and asked to try on coats at each shop.

The real objective, said the prosecution, was discovered by Mrs. Fisher, when a metal necklace, a metal bangle and a pair of stockings were missing after the accused had visited her shop at No. 178, Nathan Road.

Mrs. Fisher went out and found accused in another shop in the neighbourhood. The police were summoned and accused were taken to the police station in a taxi by the Sergeant, who, on alighting, found a pair of stockings in the taxi apparently left behind by one of the accused.

The case is proceeding.

COST OF LIVING IN BRITAIN

The cost of living index figure in Britain, according to Ministry of Labour figures, show a rise of 12 per cent. during last year.

At the beginning of 1940, the index figure was 74 per cent. above that for July, 1914, as compared with 55 per cent. immediately before the outbreak of war in the previous September.

By March 1, the figure had risen to 79 and on July 1 had again risen sharply to 87. It declined to 85 on August 1 but by January 1 this year had risen to 96. — British Wireless.

R.A.F. FORMATIONS SWEEP THE INVASION PORTS

TWO FORMATIONS of R.A.F. bombers accompanied by a strong force of fighters carried out an offensive sweep over Dunkirk and Boulogne yesterday. Bombs were dropped on docks at Dunkirk.

According to an early report, two enemy fighters were destroyed by one British squadron.

The R.A.F. air raids on Calais docks proved even more successful and bombs were showered on many parts of the harbour according to later official details.

The pilot of one aircraft said he watched bombs explode and saw bursts lift shipping clear out of the water, while other pilots said they saw the bottoms of some small craft as they overturned and fell back completely wrecked.

A direct hit was obtained on a goods train on a railway near the docks. — Reuter.

One Fighter Lost

Only one British fighter is missing from the aircraft which participated in the offensive sweeps over northern France yesterday.

This was revealed by an Air Ministry communique dealing with the operations which says that though the fullest reports are not yet available it is known that two enemy fighters were destroyed. — Reuter.

DEBT LIMIT INCREASED

By vote of the House of Representatives yesterday, the Federal debt limit was increased to sixty-five thousand million dollars and the Federal Tax exemptions were removed from future issues of Federal Government obligations. — Reuter.



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America Awaiting Hitler's Surprise Stroke

ADMINISTRATION leaders in Washington believe that the next eight or 10 weeks will tell whether the United States will be plunged into actual warfare against the Axis because of President Roosevelt's unprecedented programme to "guarantee" a British victory.

Actually, it is war right now without any shots being fired and there is an alliance between the United States and Britain without any seals or signatures.

Chancellor Hitler, however, knows just as Washington knows, that the United States cannot deliver an "avalanche" of arms to Britain before six months, or a year, and hence Chancellor Hitler may attempt a knockout blow at Britain before United States' planes, guns, ships and tanks can be delivered in sufficient quantities.

I found high Government officials acutely apprehensive lest a test of the British ability to survive comes before sufficient aid arrives, writes a correspondent. Diplomatic, military and naval leaders told me they believe Britain will be able to turn back any German invasion.

One high official said the "odds on such a Nazi undertaking are easily 60 to 40 in Britain's favour."

"Total Destruction"

Those close to President Roosevelt fear that Chancellor Hitler's surprise stroke may be even worse than an invasion, that he may try to knock Britain out by "total destruction" from the air, for which Coventry and London bombings may have been merely rehearsals.

This attack of "total destruction," it is believed in the United States, may come after or simultaneously with a German invasion of Ireland sometime in March.

United States' policy of "all out" aid to Britain is a direct result of the explorations of the Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Sumner Welles, a year ago in Rome, Paris, Berlin and London. Mr. Welles came out of Germany last year bearing what was tantamount to a blunt warning from Chancellor Hitler that if the United States knew what was good for her, she would keep her skirts clear of any entanglements such as aid for Britain.

Hitler Sought "Peace"

That was the time of the "phony war" and reports reaching Mr. Roosevelt, some purportedly originating from Reich Air Marshal Hermann Goering, that Chancellor Hitler was in a mood to negotiate peace, were heard time and again. These "feelers" even contended that Chancellor Hitler was willing to step aside as dictator if any equitable peace for Germany was devisable.

Mr. Welles learned that Chancellor Hitler was willing to negotiate a peace, but that following the conquest of Poland the Fuehrer wanted a "victor's peace."

In private conversation with Chancellor Hitler, Mr. Welles listened to the Fuehrer paint a grim word picture of German "planes reaching beyond Europe, a picture ranking the United States as a rival of Germany, whether or not the United States entered the war."

President's Challenge

Mr. Welles returned and Mr. Roosevelt flung down the challenge that there can be no reconciliation between the Axis "tyranny" and the Democratic "way of life."

The barricade had been thrown up but there had been no shooting. In this race against time to arm Britain, however, the United States undoubtedly will be compelled to take bolder steps than any disclosed thus far. The Administration's programme is being pushed ahead on the principle that if shots are to be fired, it must be Germany who fires the first one.

FIREWOOD PRICE CONTROL?

The retail price of firewood soared to a new record height this morning when only 22 cabbies could be obtained for one dollar.

Government, the "China Mail" was given to understand this morning, is about to adopt effective measures to remedy the situation.

Wholesale and retail prices of this everyday necessity may be fixed by Government within the next few days.

SILK STORE ROBBERY

For breaking into the Hariram Silk Store last Wednesday and stealing a large quantity of piece goods, four Chinese were sentenced to three months' hard labour each and ordered to be expelled by Mr. E. Himsforth at Kowloon this morning.

Accused broke into the shop by the back door and were arrested later on the roof of a house in Hankow Road later. Part of the goods were recovered by the police.

POSSIBILITY OF SECRET WEAPON

PREPARATIONS FOR THE DEFENCE OF BRITAIN AGAINST INVASION TAKE FULL ACCOUNT OF THE POSSIBLE USE OF GAS BY THE GERMAN ARMY AND AIR FORCE AND STEPS ARE TO BE TAKEN TO COUNTERACT THE ATTACK WHICH WOULD COME CHIEFLY FROM THE SKIES AND SEAS.

Britain has pledged herself under the Geneva Protocol of 1925 not to use gas unless this is first inflicted on her in war.

Thus the initiative in its use must remain with Germany who introduced this weapon in the last war.

Germany also pledged herself not to use it again but may follow the example of her Axis partner, Italy, in the conquest of Abyssinia.

The Germans are not believed to possess any new gas.

Indeed, scientists consider no new gas which can be used in chemical warfare exists. What would be new would be some hitherto unforeseen method of using this weapon.

Wholesale use of gas to terrorise the civilian population is hardly likely for this is a weapon which recoils on the user like a boomerang.

Safety Of Masks

Complete safety against all poison gases is provided by the service gas-mask and the civilian gas-mask, the only difference between the two being that the former is designed to stand up to

5 MILLION MORE BATTLE-SUITS

Contracts have just been signed, states the Ministry of Supply, for the largest single order for serge battle-dress placed since the war began—5,000,000 blouses and 6,000,000 trousers. Nearly 250 clothing contractors, in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, will be engaged on the work. The 9,000 miles of serge, taking 10,000 tons of wool required, will be manufactured by 150 firms. Nine thousand miles of lining material will also be used. More than 200,000,000 brass buttons will be sewn on the uniforms.

FISHERMEN AMONG THE MINES

Five fishermen appeared before the Marine Magistrate, Commander T. C. Stiff, this morning, for anchoring in the Tathong Channel Minefield.

Defendants were arrested by the naval authorities and handed over to the police.

Commander Stiff said it was a serious offence and pointed out that charts showing the prohibited areas had been issued for a long time.

Defendants were fined \$20 or three weeks imprisonment.

QUIET TRADING ON STOCK MARKET

A general strength in gilt-edged securities and Indian irredeemable stocks on the mobilisation of Indian dated issues provided the feature of to-day's market on the London Stock Exchange.

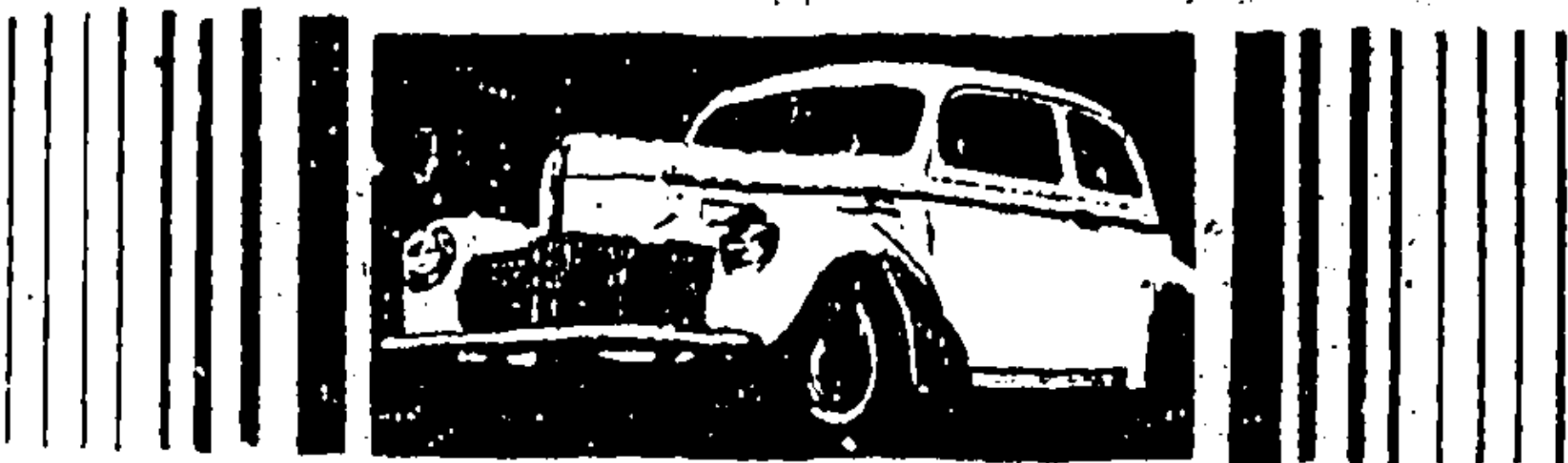
Elsewhere, the market was quiet, the early buoyancy following Mr. Churchill's broadcast being mostly not fully maintained owing to the quietness of trading.

Industrial issues were narrowly irregular and home-rails attracted small buying, while among foreign bonds, Belgian and Japanese issues improved.

Wall Street was firm.—Reuter.

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THE SPORTS CLUB.

Selling Lotteries.

REMINDER.

Members are reminded that Selling Lotteries will be conducted at the Club on:

TO-DAY

and
THURSDAY, the 13th, commencing each day at 5.30 p.m. on the following Races:—

The Hong Kong Derby,
The Rooty Hill Derby and Sports Club Cup,
The Austral Derby.

Members' friends, including Ladies, are cordially invited.

LAM MING FAN,
Hon. Secretary.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

TUESDAY, 11th February, 1941 commencing at 5.15 p.m. at their Sales Room, No. 2, Connaught Road, Central (Room No. 205, 2nd Floor)

A COLLECTION OF VALUABLE POSTAGE STAMPS.

Terms: Cash on Delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.,

Auctioneers.

Hong Kong, 8th February, 1941.

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

FRIDAY, 14th February, 1941 commencing at 2.30 p.m. at their Sales Room, No. 35, Hankow Road, Kowloon.

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Hong Kong, 11th February, 1941.

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BRIDGE NOTES

A LUCKY HAND

By The Four Aces

South was lucky to make his contract, but he should be given credit for timing his plays so as to take advantage of his good fortune:

South, Dealer
Neither side vulnerable

AK 6
K 10 6 3
K 8 4
8 7 3

7 4 2
Q 8 7 6 2
A 10
6 4 2

N
W
E
S

Q 10 5
A
Q 7 6 3
2
Q J 10 9

J 9 8 3
J 9 4
J 9 5
A K 6

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

West opened the five of hearts against the ambitious three-no-trump contract. East took the heart Ace and returned the Queen of clubs. And, after some thought, South put up the Ace of clubs.

The opening trick assured him of three heart tricks, and the top cards in the black suits would yield four more. Two additional tricks were required for the contract. Both could be found in spades, if West happened to hold the Queen and only one other spade; otherwise it would be necessary to play West for the diamond Ace (so as to win a trick with dummy's diamond King) and also to find a third spade trick.

South began by leading the Jack of hearts and letting it ride for a successful finesse. Next he led the heart nine, winning in dummy with the heart ten. But it was still too early to cash the King of hearts; that would set up West's last heart and lead to the defeat of the contract. Instead he cashed the top spades and when the Queen failed to fall, he led the low spade from the dummy.

East took the spade Queen and returned the Jack of clubs, but South carefully refused to win the trick. But he could safely win the next club and cash the spade Jack. Then a diamond lead towards dummy's King found West powerless to prevent the two red Kings from making tricks.

Yesterday you were Merwin Meyer's partner and, with neither side vulnerable, you held,

K J 9 8
10 5
A 10 7
Q J 10 6

The bidding:

You	Jacoby	Meyer	Schenker
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
(?)			

ANSWER: Bid one spade. There is no need to jump at this point, since your partner will rebid if he has a legitimate opening bid. If he hasn't, all more reason for you not to jump the bidding. Score 100% for one spade, 50% for two no-trump, 0 for any other bid.

Question No. 636

To-day you hold the same hand, and the bidding continues.

You	Jacoby	Meyer	Schenker
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
(?)			

What do you bid? (Answer

To-morrow.)
(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE RIFT IN CHUNGKING

OFFICIAL AND other circles in Washington are watching with interest matched only by their concern the present civil strife in China. It is hoped that Gen. Chiang Kai-shek with skillful handling can avert what might easily become a disaster for China and victory for the Far East Axis partner.

Many think the matter dates back to the closing of the Burma Road after which it was reported that Russian aid to China began to melt away to a mere trickle. This was accompanied by suggestions from Moscow that Gen. Chiang might profitably seek closer relations with Yen-an (headquarters of the Communist forces) and that a larger voice in the councils of the Chinese Government should be given the Chinese Communists.

Unable to look a gift horse too closely in the mouth and pessimistic about continued Democratic aid, Gen. Chiang had begun to trim his sails accordingly when the Burma Road was reopened and financial aid from America and Britain was announced. This again changed the picture and made Gen. Chiang less dependent on aid which appeared to be not entirely above suspicion.

In addition it is reported here that the Chinese Communists have scarcely been living up to their agreement with Gen. Chiang not to teach Communist doctrines in areas where they are fighting, that in fact they have done as much propagandising as fighting and have enlisted many more men than the agreement with Chungking permitted; but whatever the causes, this civil strife is much regretted here at a time when every ounce of unity in China is necessary if the power which threatens both the Kuomintang and the Communists, namely Japan, is to be successfully fought.

Untimely Feud

The New York "Herald-Tribune," in an editorial titled "An Untimely Chinese Feud," says it is impossible to pass judgment on the situation until much more is known about it except to re-echo the lament that it is most unfortunate. The paper states that Gen. Chiang may have been grudging and parsimonious in his assistance to the Reds but points out there is much fear in the Kuomintang and among Government officials that unless something is done a final victory over Japan might also be a Communist victory over China, and China would be out of the Japanese frying pan into the Soviet fire. This recalls a Chinese slogan which recently reached Washington that Japan "is merely lice on the body of China but Communism is a disease of the heart."

It is feared here that this attitude and the civil strife with the Communists may strengthen the arm of those who are known to be urging the Government to come to terms with Mr. Wang Ching-wei and the Japanese.

The "Herald-Tribune" concludes its article by saying that when the

'KEEP ATTACKING'

"We have got to keep on hitting our enemies now while preparing in the most thorough manner to deliver the most decisive and best prepared offensive that has ever been launched, and at the right time and the right place," Field-Marshal Sir Cyril Deverell stated at Huddersfield recently.

Sir Cyril, who was formerly Chief of the Imperial General Staff and is now honorary Director-General of the Army and R.A.F. Savings Association, was speaking at a luncheon to inaugurate Huddersfield's War Weapons Week.

"Whether we meet the German army in England or elsewhere, we shall be up against the most highly trained and equipped army in the world," he said.

"Obviously we have got to train and equip our army to the same standard in the quickest time possible."

DOG BITES

Are Dangerous,

a physician should therefore be consulted without delay if you have the misfortune to be bitten by a dog.

For the many minor injuries which occur daily, cuts, scratches, abrasions, burns, scalds, She-Ko provides a soothing, rapidly curative treatment. It is equally beneficial for skin troubles of all kinds. Keep She-Ko in the home; obtainable from chemists everywhere.



SHE-KO

SOOTHING
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Himself To Blame

The New York "Times" states: "American people would be ungrateful if they did not recognise and remember the good work Kennedy did for them in London. If his real services are now clouded by off-the-record interviews, Kennedy has only himself to blame."

"Unguarded talk was always one of the defects of his qualities in London. Another was reliance on hunches rather than on cool analysis."

The "Herald Tribune" asserts less charitably: "It is the simple if, perhaps, unpleasant truth that with Kennedy's definite disconnection from the diplomatic service a vast number of Americans honestly concerned for their country and her freedom will breathe more easily."

One well-known Washington columnist, Mark Sullivan, is perturbed by Mr. Kennedy's hints that Britain is turning into a Socialist country. Sullivan says that the United States ought to try to get more information on this subject before committing itself to closer collaboration.

The New Orleans "Times" comments: "Kennedy's ambassadorial role has not been his most successful, and his relinquishment of the London post need not be deeply regretted by his own or the British Government in the light of his reported views on the war situation and Britain's fate."

OFF THE RECORD

By ED REED



"And this time I'm leaving forever, but don't you DARE leave any dirty dishes."

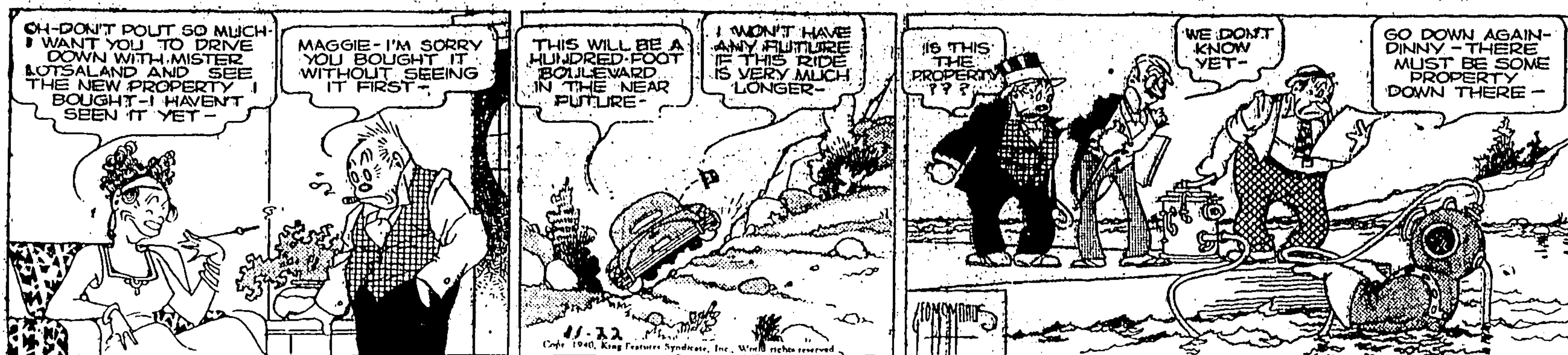
Here's Luck

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Bringing Up Father

By George MacManus



A PAGE FOR WOMEN

Waistline Slenderised

Even some very young women have what is called a spare tyre at their waistlines. This is a roll of fat which shouldn't be there at all and no corset or girdle can conceal it! In fact, a corset or girdle is apt to accent it as the excess flesh around the hipline is pushed up to the waistline by any constricting garment.

A spare tyre definitely ages one's figure and it should be dieted and exercised into oblivion!

This roll of flesh is caused by permitting your midriff to grow flabby and your posture poor. The sagging abdominal muscles cannot do their job of holding you up and keeping your waistline slim.

To begin a programme of re-fashioning you must heed the advice of Miss Van Rensselaer who is an authority on figure correction at the American Woman's Association in New York.

"Keeping your stomach held in and up and your chest lifted high will not necessarily take off excess flesh at your waistline, but it will make a very definite difference in the appearance of your figure and tends to firm the abdominal muscles. You teach them to behave and that is important," she claims.

And to supplement this conscious habit of standing and walking in good posture, Miss Van Rensselaer suggests the following three exercises to be done every day, or every other day if you



This industrious beauty is practicing the Back Lying Scissors exercise described in to-day's column.

have another exercise routine to master!

Exercises To Slim Abdomen

Back Lying Scissors: Lie flat on your back, hands on hips. Keeping knees straight, raise right leg and as you lower it to the floor lift left leg. Repeat this scissor fashion 15 to 20 times in quick rhythm. Then rest and repeat.

Free Bicycle: Lie flat on back. Raise knees to chest, then go through the motions of pedalling a bicycle by extending right leg forward, down and back to chest; the left leg following the same procedure and in rhythm. Repeat 15 to 20 times. Rest and repeat.

Double Leg Lowering, Left and Right: Lie on the floor on your back, hands grasping the foot of the bed or a heavy chair behind you elbows touching the floor. Raise both legs up, swing to the right and down to the floor in an arc; up and back to original position. Three times to each side. Rest and repeat.

Lingerie Touches

There is a tendency to go drab in dress during the cold months. A woman is likely to figure that her coat is going to hide her dress so why bother to fuss. When you begin to feel like that take a good squint at yourself in your mirror—I'll bet you look pretty uninteresting! Make a turn about face and perk up—lack of vanity is a sure sign of old age getting you or that you are in need of a vacation and change!

Bright new make-up helps a lot to make a woman look chic and thoughtfully groomed. Winter shades are keyed to winter clothes colours and as one's skin lightens a shade or two during the colder months check and see if your powder is light enough for your skin tone. Keep your skin well lubricated so it will not look wrinkled and old—notice the difference in your appearance when you apply shiny cream to your face! Literally the lubricant makes your skin look years younger.

Lingerie Touches Always Good

By sewing on a pretty organdie ruffle, or a smart set of collar and cuffs to an oldish dress you not only get more wear from the model but it looks new on you. White, or the paler pastel shades near one's face are most flattering and more women should take advantage of the delightful assortment of neckwear offered. Every type of woman has been considered by the designers and you are bound to find a lingerie set which will give you and your dress the lifts needed!

I'll wager you have had the experience of being caught looking ungroomed by someone whom you

wanted terribly to impress—an old beau, a catty female friend, your son's best girl—or any one of the people important in your life. It certainly pays to look smart all of the time and a woman likes herself better and radiates poise and charm if she knows she is most presentable.

Other Incidentals

Look over your shoes too, they may need new heel lifts or a professional cleaning. Oxford laces have a way of growing limp all of a sudden so keep on hand a few fresh pairs of laces for such emergencies.

Around February the gloves you bought at the beginning of the season look the worse for wear. Have yours cleaned or buy a new pair or two, because fingers fumble if one's gloves are ill-fitting or soiled.

Little details of grooming make a great difference between a drab, uninteresting appearance and one of alluring smartness. All women should give these details the consideration they merit.



A wise man coming home late will throw his arms around his wife before she can strike the first blow.

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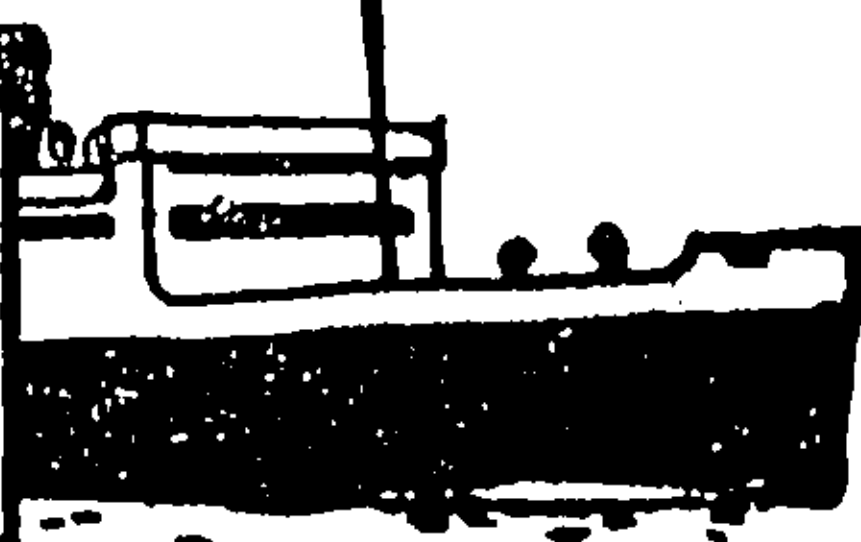
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S.S. PRESIDENT GRANT	March 16
S.S. PRESIDENT JACKSON	March 23
S.S. "PRESIDENT HAYES"	April 20

TO MANILA

S.S. PRESIDENT COOLIDGE	February 15
S.S. PRESIDENT PIERCE	February 26
S.S. PRESIDENT TAFT	March 11

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The Printed Matter Service to the following places in China is temporarily suspended:—Yunnan, Szechuen, Kweichow, Hunan, Fukien (except Amoy & Kulangsu), Kwangsi (except Wuchow & Yungshien), North & East of Kwangtung.	
Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.	
INWARD MAILS	
TUESDAY	
Canton	
FRIDAY	
Straits and Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" (except London) by sea from Singapore.	
Canton	
Java and Manila.	
U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan and Shanghai (San Francisco date, 24th January).	
SATURDAY	
United Kingdom and Straits.	
United Kingdom and Straits.	
MONDAY	
Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 10th February.	
Sandakan	
FOR	DATE & TIME
OUTWARD MAILS	
TUESDAY	
Straits, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa	10.30 a.m.
Canton	7.00 p.m.
THURSDAY	
Air Mail by Sea to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways" K.P.O. & G.P.O.	
Reg.	10.00 a.m.
Ord.	10.30 a.m.
Straits and Calcutta.	
Parcels	10.30 a.m.
Letters	11.30 a.m.
Straits, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa	3.30 p.m.
FRIDAY	
Air Mail by Air to Rangoon to connect with the "British Overseas Airways" K.P.O.	
Reg.	4.00 p.m.
Ord.	4.30 p.m.
G.P.O.	
Reg.	4.00 p.m.
Ord.	4.30 p.m.
Formosa and Dairen	7.00 p.m.
Canton	7.00 p.m.
MONDAY	
Shanghai and Parcels only for United Kingdom.	
K.P.O.	
Parcels	4.00 p.m.
Reg.	5.00 p.m.
Ord.	5.30 p.m.
G.P.O.	
Parcels	4.00 p.m.
Reg.	5.00 p.m.
Ord.	7.00 p.m.
Air Mail for Manila, Guam, Honolulu, U.S.A. and Europe via "Pan-American Airways and Trans-Atlantic Services."	
K.P.O.	
Reg.	5.00 p.m.
Ord.	5.30 p.m.
G.P.O.	
Reg.	5.00 p.m.
Ord.	7.00 p.m.

* Superscribed Correspondence Only.

RADIO

12.28 p.m.—Dvorak—Concerto in A Minor, Op. 53.
1.03 p.m.—Rawicz and Landauer on Two Pianos.
1.15 p.m.—Regimental Band of H.M. Grenadier Guards.
1.30 p.m.—Reuter and Rugby Press, Weather Forecast and Announcements.
1.45 p.m.—Dance Music by Billy Cotton and His Band.
2.15 p.m.—Close down.
5.45 p.m.—Indian Programme.
6.32 p.m.—Haydn—Symphony No. 102 in B Flat Major.
6.58 p.m.—A Song.
7.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.
7.15 p.m.—London Relay—Questions of the Hour.
7.30 p.m.—Portuguese Programme.
8.03 p.m.—Verdi's "Rigoletto". Act I.
9.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News & News Commentary.
9.30 p.m.—London Relay—Talk: 'Scots Abroad'.
9.45 p.m.—Scottish Country Dance Orchestra.
10.00 p.m.—Musical Comedy Selections.
10.30 p.m.—Latest Dance Music.
11.00 p.m.—Close down.

CURATE GASSED, NURSE DEAD

When a 51-year-old clergyman and a nurse of 46 were together in a Bournemouth flatlet they failed to notice an escape of gas, with the result that the nurse died and the clergyman became unconscious.

This theory was put forward by the deputy coroner, Mr. T. C. Thompson, at the inquest on the nurse, Miss Elsie J. Wiggery, of Ardmore Road, Parkstone, at Bournemouth when a verdict of accidental death was returned.

The coroner said that the jury would have gathered that the two people were very occupied with one another. It seemed to him highly improbable that the tragedy was pre-arranged or that it was an attempt by of them to kill the other.

The inquest had been adjourned for the clergyman, the Rev. Eric Sherrin Tarrant, perpetual curate of Wool Dorset, to give evidence, but the coroner said that he had received medical certificates stating that Mr. Tarrant's memory had not recovered from the shock, and that he was not in a fit state to travel.

Found On Bed

P.S. Butter, who forced an entry into the flatlet, said that Miss Wiggery was on the bed dead and Mr. Tarrant was on the floor. There was a partly consumed bottle of sherry and two wine glasses which had been used, one of the glasses being on the floor was the stem broken.

There was also a tray of tea things on the table which had not been used, and a kettle was on the gas ring with only a very little water in it. The taps of the gas ring and gas fire were turned on. Mr. Tarrant was only partially dressed.

Mr. Lewis Manning, for Mr. Tarrant, said that his client's brother, his wife and Mrs. Tarrant's mother were present to give evidence if necessary.

It might be that Mr. Tarrant would never remember what happened on the afternoon in question. His meeting with Miss Wiggery was not a haphazard one. She had been known to the family for two or three years and was a frequent visitor to Mr. Tarrant's home.

Ernest Hemingway Married.—Mr. Ernest Hemingway, the American author, was married in Cheyenne, Wyoming, to Miss Martha Gelhorn, 28, also a writer, whose first marriage to M. Bertrand de Jouvenel in Paris in 1933 ended in divorce. Mr. Hemingway obtained a divorce last November.

WHEN WE DICTATE PEACE

THE VIEW THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO VINDICTIVENESS IN FRAMING PEACE TERMS AFTER THE WAR WAS EXPRESSED BY AIR MARSHAL SIR PHILIP JOUBERT, SPEAKING IN LONDON TO MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL EMPIRE SOCIETY.

"We must put the right people into the job of making that peace, and keep them there," he said. "We must see that we don't have any second-raters who do not even know their geography and will frame vindictive terms impossible of fulfilment."

"I look to finishing it ourselves this time, not as an appanage to an Allied Europe, but as the sole people who are in this job."

"By reason of 800 years of political development we have reached a maturity in our institutions which is absolutely lacking in any other part of the world. We are qualified as a nation to speak as the leading hand in any settlement arrived at."

"On what lines should we dictate the peace? Surely with the accent of personal liberty, the ability of the individual to judge for himself, without treading on anybody's face."

MR. MENZIES TOURS WAR FRONT

The Australian Prime Minister, Mr. R. G. Menzies, has returned from a thirty-six hour visit to the Bardia area in which he was accompanied by General Sir Thomas Blaney, Officer Commanding the Australian Forces Overseas.

The party travelled in an R.A.F. plane and flew low over the battle zone, enabling Mr. Menzies to follow the whole story of the brilliant campaign.

Mr. Menzies' visit was marked by an atmosphere of friendliness and good cheer.—Reuter.

TRADE MISSION LEAVING COLOMBIA

Members of the British Trade Mission to South America are leaving Bogota, Colombia, to-day after a most successful five-day visit.

There have been unrestrained demonstrations of sympathy for the cause of the British Empire.—Reuter.

The King and New Regiment.—The King has assumed the honorary colonelcy of the Newfoundland Heavy Regt. Royal Artillery, raised only last spring. The first contingent reached Britain in May, and other contingents have since landed here to receive their training.

TRAVEL A.-O. LINE

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COMPANY MEETING

EVACUATION AND PROPERTY OWNERS

The annual general meeting of Humphreys Estate and Finance Company, Limited, was held this morning at the Jacobean Room of the Hong Kong Hotel.

Those present included Mr. D. E. Clark (Chairman), Mr. J. Scott Harston and Mr. J. M. Alves (Directors), Messrs. T. Ramsay, C. B. Brown, W. Hansen, W. C. Lee, P. C. Potts and L. Kadoorie (Shareholders) and Mr. J. L. Quie, (Secretary).

The Chairman said, "I regret that the result of the year's working is not so favourable as the preceding year, the profit of \$181,272.61 being in round figures some \$20,000 less. The evacuation of women from the Colony in July left us with a number of empty tenements and, in the case of our Kowloon properties, we felt it right to grant special reductions in rental to those tenants who wished to retain their flats notwithstanding the evacuation of their families. Expense items are generally higher and interest is up by over \$7,000."

Property Tax

War taxation appears for the first time in the accounts under the heading Property Tax. This amount payable for the full twelve months, i.e. up to March 1941 being \$15,116.30.

A donation of \$5,000 was made to the South China Morning Post Bazaar Fund and we feel sure this will meet with your approval. Items in the Balance Sheet are very similar to the previous year with the exception of investments which have been reduced by \$48,150.00. There was a small loss incurred by the sale of these of \$2,094.50.

Argyle Street Land

We have no building programme at the moment, although we have a large area of land in Argyle Street undeveloped. When normal conditions prevail the development of this area will have to be considered.

I do not think there are any further matters to which I can usefully refer and I now propose that the amount available for appropriation be allocated as follows.

Pay a dividend of 7% on 200,000 shares \$140,000.00; Transfer to General Reserve \$25,000.00; Transfer to Building Improvement Account (Bringing same up to \$75,000.00) \$3,027.50; Transfer to Special Repairs & Renewals Account (Bringing same up to \$15,000.00) \$10,277.00 and carry forward \$39,507.67.

The proposal was seconded by Mr. T. Ramsay.

The re-election of retiring Directors was proposed by Mr. D. E. Clark and seconded by Mr. C. B. Brown, while the re-election of Messrs. Percy Smith, Seth and Fleming and Messrs. Linstead and Davis as Auditors was proposed by Mr. W. Hansen and seconded by Mr. W. C. Lee.

BIG CHANGES AT B.B.C.

Important changes in the policy, organisation and personnel of the British Broadcasting Corporation may, I understand, soon be announced. These changes include:

The appointment of a successor to the holder of a high office in the B.B.C.; and

Transfer of the control and direction of foreign broadcasting to the Foreign Office.

Plans now ready will allow longer time to be given to news services to European and other foreign countries and reception abroad to be improved.

Difficulties Overcome

The Government has for some time been dissatisfied with the wireless service to foreign countries, and the problem has been under examination. Various technical difficulties have been encountered, but it appears that most of them have now been overcome.

Special attention has had to be paid to the risk of giving wireless directional guidance to enemy aircraft.

The last extensive reorganisation of the B.B.C. took place in April last year. To meet wartime developments continuous liaison with the Ministry of Information was started, and three new divisions—Programme, Home and Overseas—were created to replace the Programme and Public Relations divisions.

GERMAN MAGNETIC AIR MINE

Details of the German magnetic air mines which, floated down on a parachute as big as two houses, are so sensitive that they will explode on the approach of anyone wearing even a steel helmet, and so lethal that they are capable of razing half a London suburb, are contained in a letter received recently by a resident of Melbourne from a London business man says the Sydney "Morning Herald."

Yet so calm and resolute is the spirit of London that the writer could sit in his office describing analytically and objectively the warfare over Britain while, not far away, this device threatened momentarily to explode and raze hundreds of buildings, his own premises included.

"It is called a time bomb," he writes, "and may be removed in time by a Suicide Squad otherwise the police think it will raze half Stepney, our stores included. We must wait and see, and not get flustered, but hope for the best and believe it will not happen. If Pelham Street and our stocks go sky-high, we should, no doubt, cable you."

Monster Magnetic Bomb

Then there is a postscript: "The land mine which fell... 40 hours before was removed at 7 o'clock... It was definitely a magnetic bomb, liable to go off at the approach of anyone wearing even a steel helmet. It was 9ft. 6in. high, and floated down on a parachute as big as houses. Because of this thing, from 10,000 to 15,000 people were moved out of their houses. From experience of others that have gone off, they are liable to do very serious damage for a radius of a quarter of a mile, and less serious damage for at least half a mile around. A party of 150 naval experts got on to the thing, and when it had been largely dismantled it was removed to open country at about 60 miles an hour."

The letter, a remarkable personal document, is instinct with the spirit of England. The writer speaks of bombing as a "rotten business," but his comment on its rottenness is that he "feels infinitely privileged to live during a period in the world's history which, I believe, precedes the rebirth of a true Christian era."

Reprisals To Come

The writer discusses frankly the dislocation of normal ways of life, the problems of ensuring adequate rest for his staffs, harassed by night raiders and sirens, and recounts grim incidents of the air war, but distils from it all the essence of victory.

"As we grow stronger in the air," he says, "we shall make the Germans whine with the horror of our reprisal. We have no alternative but to blast that nation into its component parts, to destroy its false gods, to crush utterly all that stands for bullying and gangsterism.... That is the spirit that has been awakened in all of us in England. We may finish without houses, without relations, without business, but we have one goal, one united thought that I cannot believe will ever alter.... We have to clean up the world, and the glory of the British Empire will be acknowledged by every civilised community.... I want to live until the story is told, and the world is refreshed in peace...."

"I have written of only London. Much has happened elsewhere—we do not know how much, nor when it will end. All we know is that the spirit of the people is sound and great. The King said we are a great people. We are. We are magnificent. We grin, and pray, and know we can only die once, if it comes our way, but we as a nation are going to thrash and crush the German.... We shall not crack."

DOCUMENTS IN 'PLANE WRECK

Following announcement that the remains of Admiral Baron Mineo Osumi, Japanese Supreme War Councillor, who was killed when the naval plane he was taking was brought down in Chungshan by Chinese troops, have been found, the Chinese High Command has issued orders that they be sent to Kunlunkwan, in south Kwangsi, and buried there with due ceremony. General Pai Chung-hsi, Vice-Chief of Staff, told a Central News representative to-day.

The remains of Captain Hideo Matsuda, Rear-Admiral Hikojira Suga, Commander Takao Tsunoda, Commander Eiichi Shirahama, Fleet Paymaster Chugoro Tateni, Chief Pilot Torao Kurosa, Pilot Hiroaki Kono, Mechanic Shinji Takaka and Mechanic Jiro Inami which have also been found will be buried on the scene of the wreck, General Pai revealed.

General Pai said that important documents found in the wreckage have been flown to Chungking.

Perusal of these documents indicates that Japanese intentions are to embark upon their southward push soon and that Admiral Osumi was flying from Canton to Hainan Island to direct the plan. — Central News.

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China Lights (Old) \$6 b., \$6.10 sa.
H.K. Electrics (Old) \$40¼ sa.
Macao Electrics (Old) \$17¼ sa.
Macao Electrics (New) \$16¼ sa.
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Cements \$17½ b.
H.K. Ropes \$8½ b., \$8½ sa.
STORES, &c.
Watsons \$10.90 b., \$11 s.
MISCELLANEOUS
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Constructions (Old) \$1.60 b.
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100 Macao Elec. (Old) @ \$17¼
50 Macao Elec. (New) @ \$16¼
100 Ropes @ \$8½

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MACAO MEET EASTERN AT CAROLINE HILL TO-DAY

Visitors Much Stronger Than On Last Visit

Airosa Will Lead Visitors' Attack

By "Referee"

An improved Macao Football Association team will meet Eastern this afternoon at Caroline Hill at 4.45 p.m. and in view of the great improvement and strides made in Macao during the past year the visitors are expected to give Eastern a good fight.

The Visitors will be represented by their best available side and it is interesting to note that several players who came down last season for the Interport game were unable to obtain a place in the team.

At their last meeting in Macao they drew with Eastern when they shared four goals and Macao have also done well against Sing Tao and South China though against the latter team they were narrowly defeated.

To-morrow Macao are meeting South China at Caroline Hill at 4.45 p.m.

Airosa, who preferred hockey on the last visit which was played on the same day as the soccer Interport, will lead the attack and he is quite a useful soccer player. He is the most dangerous of the visiting forwards.

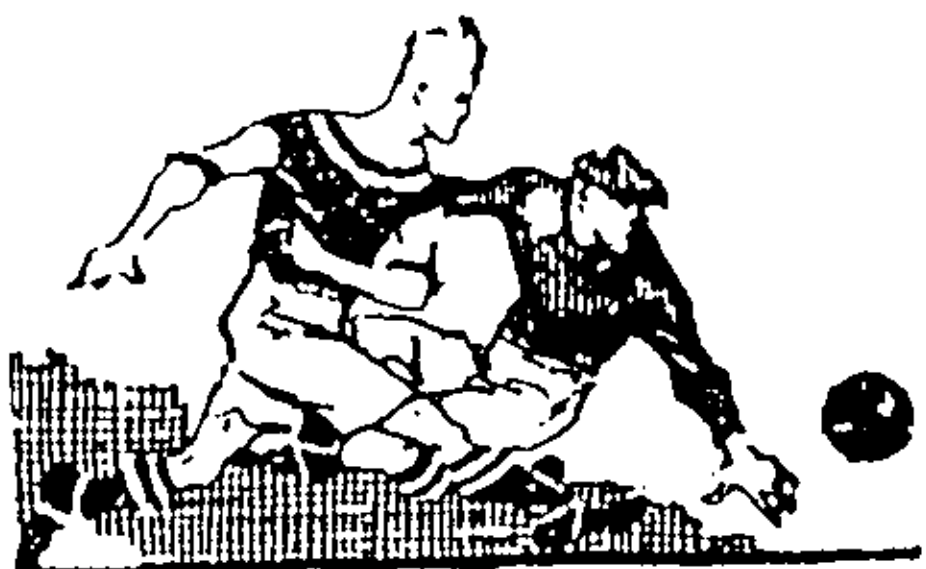
MACAO Carvalho, Cordova and Chifu; Sousa, Colaco and Magalhaes, Ipoutou, Airosa, Querrenra, Lau Chon-kuan and Chong Han-kong.

Reserves: Mendes, Pimenta and Leandro.

EASTERN Lau Hin-hon; Ng Kee-cheung, S. Y. Yen; Qui Wing-fok, Hsu King-sing, Lo Wai-kuen; Fu Tsuk-ping, Cheung Kam-hoi, V. K. Hyui, C. T. Tsao and Hau Ching-to.

SHIELD DRAW TO-MORROW

The draw for the Second Round of the Shield Competition will take place to-morrow at the Council of the Hong Kong Football Association.



SING TAO VISIT TO MANILA DEFINITE

Sing Tao are leaving for Manila on Monday, February 24, immediately after the Second Round of the Shield Competition and are returning by March 14.

They are arranging that their outstanding game against Club be played before their departure.

INTERPORT PRACTICE

Postponed from last Saturday due to rain, the Probable Interport team, selected for the forthcoming Interport hockey match with Macao, will now meet Indian Army in a practice game on the Club ground on Thursday, commencing at 5 p.m.

DISCARDED WINNING RACE TICKETS

I met a man recently who has a nice little sideline in turn-up winning Tote tickets, writes a correspondent from London.

He reckoned in normal times to pick up an average of £100 worth a reason on racecourses.

You wouldn't think anyone who goes racing would discard a winning ticket, but here's a figure that will astonish you.

I am told by a leading Tote authority that since the machine began operations in midsummer, 1929, unclaimed winnings amount to no less than £20,000.

The last Nottingham meeting supplies a good example. Many people who had failed to pick the winner of the second leg of the Tote Double (Steel Blade) threw away their tickets.

It turned out that nobody backed the double, and the machine paid out about £3 to those who had picked the winner of the first leg, Roman Chief.

Where It Goes

Where does the unclaimed \$20,000 go?

Being a statutory body, the Racecourse Betting Control Board are not allowed by law to do what they are quite prepared to do—hand it over to a charity.

Their surplus must go to specified objects—such as needy racecourse executives and the breeding industry.

The Board has always impressed customers that not only should they make sure they have the right ticket before they leave the windows but that they should wait until the "all right" has been signalled before destroying their tickets.

Often officials are confronted with applications from backers who claim they have destroyed tickets in mistake. Whenever there is any evidence to support the claim, payment is made usually about a fortnight after the event, but obviously, the Board has to be careful otherwise they would be faced with an avalanche of false claims.

TO-DAY'S HOCKEY

The Quadrangular Tournament hockey match between Club and British Army will be played at Sookumpoo to-day, bully off at 4.45 p.m.

Following will represent the Club:—

Benwell, V. C. Bond and J. Gonsalves; D. McLellan, W. A. Reed and N. B. M. Whitley; D. T. Smith, T. S. D. Whitley, A. E. P. Guest, E. Fowler and R. Soares.

SUNDAY'S HOCKEY

Following are the matches in the Hong Kong Hockey Association Tournament to be played on Sunday:—

10.30 A.M.
Police "A" v Punjab
5th A.A. "A" v Nomads
2/M.T.B.'s v Engineers
Destroyers v 5th A.A. "B"
4.00 P.M.
Police "B" v University

WHERE ALL-IN STILL PAYS

Strange as it may appear, all-in wrestling is playing to 5,000 crowds at Belfast and often to capacity house in Blackpool.

A party of young doctors never missed a show. They went for anatomical reasons—to see how far an arm, a leg, or a neck could be bent without breaking.

ARMY SPORTLIGHT

By "SQUADDY"

TO-MORROW evening at Nanking Barracks the first of this season's Army Boxing competitions will take place, when Combined Royal Artillery meet Middlesex in the Semi-Final of the Command Novices Team Boxing Competition. The first fight will be at 8.30 p.m.

This is the first time for a good many seasons that Royal Artillery have participated in this sport, and they have got together a strong team which is out to give the "Middies" a good run.

The winners of this match will meet Royal Scots in the Final on Thursday night.

Both Units have not yet decided on their teams for this competition and they will not be able to let their teams be known until after the weighing-in to-morrow morning.

Royal Scots have the strongest team of the three and should be able to pull this competition off for the fourth year in succession.

Middlesex Regt. are holding the Inter-Cov. Boxing Opens on February 26, 27 and 28 at Nanking Barracks to select their team for the Command Open Team Competition which will be held at Murray Barracks on April 8, 9 and 10.

In the second division the Engineers and Royal Army Service Corps are fighting it out for League Honours with Sappers being three points ahead, and one game in hand of the Service Corps.

Service Corps are in the lead for the goal-breaking record with 87 goals scored this season so far, and the Sappers have scored 79. The Service Corps have another seven matches to play and the Sappers have eight.

Jennings, of Middlesex juniors, heads the list of goal scorers with 29 goals and is followed closely by Fox of Engineers who has scored 28 goals (both these players are of the junior league). Hendy, of Navy, heads the first Division with 19 goals, and Jones, Engineers, heads the third division with 22 goals, and Sgt. Brackenbury second with 20 goals.

Middlesex Regt. this week are going all out to beat the Sing Tao football club in their First Division encounter, who have on two occasions been very lucky to beat the Die Hards this season.

Royal Scots, who have not been so fortunate this season will play the Navy on Thursday at Sookumpoo in the First Division, kick off 4.15 p.m., and Royal Scots juniors will play the 30th Hvy. Bty., R.A. in the Second Division, kick off 2.45 p.m.

Middlesex Regt.'s first eleven should have 18 points in the league table instead of 16 as shown in the week-end papers, these extra two points were awarded to them for the match which they should have played against Kowloon on January 18, with the latter failing to turn up. The first four teams in the First Division should read as follows:—

P. W. D. L. F. A. Pts.
Sing Tao 18 13 3 2 47 20 28
S. China 17 13 2 2 50 20 29
Eastern 17 12 3 2 53 27 27
Middlesex 16 8 2 6 33 35 18

This now gives the Middlesex a four point lead over Kowloon who are the nearest rivals in the league, and they should now be able to finish in this position.

We are glad to hear that L/Cpl. Bankier, who has been in hospital for the last two weeks suffering from slight concussion, which he received playing against the Chinese in the Lai Wah Cup, is now again out of hospital and will be playing between the sticks for the Army against the Civilians in the Final of the Lai Wah Cup next Sunday.

Following have entered for the Cross Country runs which are being held on the Kowloon Peninsula, starting from the Hong Kong Polo

Club ground, Boundary Street, Kowloon.

Entries for the Indian Units' run are—Combined 8th and 12th Hvy. Regts., R.A. and 1st H.K. Regt., H.K.S.R.A.

Entries for the British Units' run have not yet been received but the following are almost certain to enter a team.

Royal Scots, and the Middlesex Regt. have been training for this event during the last two or three weeks, and the Royal Engineers are going to enter a team this year. The Combined Small Units will also enter.

The Runs are open to the following Units.

BRITISH

Combined Royal Artillery, Fortress Royal Engineers, 2nd Bn. Royal Scots, 1st Bn. Middlesex Regt., Combined Small Units.

INDIAN

Combined 8th & 12th Hvy. Regts., R.A.

9th A.A. Regt., R.A.

1st H.K. Regt., H.K.S.R.A.

5/7 Rajput Regt.

2/14 Punjab Regt.

Combined Small Units (H.K. Mule Corps and the Indian Medical Corps).

There will be two separate trophies for these two runs, and the Annual Challenge Cup will be presented to the winning team of both runs which has the lowest aggregate number of points, and the other winning team will be presented with another Challenge Cup.

This is the first year that a truly representative Combined Small Units team has been entered for the Cross Country.

Prospective competitors are already training enthusiastically and have already had some enjoyable runs round the Island, and on the Mainland.

Small Units have one or two two dark horses and Sig. Lewis of the Royal Corps of Signals who finished second in the Colony Championships should assist them greatly.

Royal Air Force have one or two possible entries, chief of whom are Cpl. Palmer, and L.A.C. Brown.

In order to pick their final Team the Combined Small Units are arranging one or two competitive runs this month. They have already asked the Hong Kong University for a date, and have arranged for a run against the Middlesex Regt., on February 24.

Combined Small Units are also forming a team to enter the Command Athletic Meeting, and to assist them in selecting their final team they are holding a Small Units Individual Athletic meeting, suggested date being March 10. This should bring Small Units talent to the notice of the Army Athletic Selection Committee who have yet to select a team for the forthcoming team match with the Chinese.

YACHTING RESULTS

The 5th Cruiser Championship race of the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club sailed yesterday resulted as follows:

FIRST DIVISION			
Yacht	Finished	Cor.	Pts.
Donna	15.37.39	15.19.45	29
(E. Cock)			
Norena	15.38.47	15.38.47	31
(P. C. M. Sedgwick)			
Yelbana	16.28.03½	16.00.51½	21
(G. W. Bearman)			
Red Rover	16.50.30	16.07.27	18
(R. W. Bateman)			

SECOND DIVISION			
Yacht	Finished	Cor.	Pts.
Evadne	17.30.42	16.15.01	22
(Major G. E. Revo)			
Tyrone	19.28.45	17.13.43	31
(B. Herschendy)			
Vand	19.03.44	17.49.54	9
(J. B. Collis)			

4-TONNERS			
Yacht	Finished	Cor.	Pts.
Tern	17.34.54	16.11.30	20
(J. L. Anderson)			
Typhoon	16.33.40	16.40.40	32
(D. Campbell)			
Curlew	19.19.25	17.22.01	29
(P. Clarke)			
Admiral	20.04.25	17.55.54	20
(B. S. Carter)			

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Bob Feller Voted Player Of Year By Baseball Writers' Association

ROBERT WILLIAM Andrew Feller, or just plain Bob Feller, who can rear back and throw a baseball with more speed than any other moundman in baseball, is the player of the year — and maybe the player of the era, if it comes to that, writes George Kirksey from New York.

Officially, however, the New York chapter of the Baseball Writers' Association of America has voted the "player of the year" award for 1940 to the Cleveland fireballer and will present a plaque to him at their annual banquet.

Feller was voted the award over the year's two most valuable players Hank Greenberg in the American League and Frank McCormick in the National League and the veteran of the year, Freddy Fitzsimmons, Dodgers' grand old pitcher who recorded 16 victories and two defeats.

Greatest Pitcher

Having added poise, and control to his blazing fast ball, Feller has developed into the game's greatest pitcher. Although he's been pitching in organised baseball only five seasons, all of them with the Cleveland Indians, Feller already is beginning to draw comparisons with Walter Johnson, Grover Cleveland Alexander, Christy Mathewson and other pitching immortals. Oldtimers may shudder, and say "Tommy Rot . . . There'll never be another Johnson or Mathewson," but when they do they ignore Feller's record achieved with a lively ball.

Despite the fact that he was just a callow youth off an Iowa farm and had to wrestle with the problem of a sore arm in the bargain, Feller hit the high road in his third season with the Indians at the age of 20.

Feller's records by years follow:	Year	W.	L.	Pct.	E.R.	Avg.
	1936	5	3	.625	3.34	
	1937	8	7	.563	3.38	
	1938	17	11	.607	.08	
	1939	24	9	.727	2.85	
	1940	27	11	.711	2.62	
	Total	82	41	.667		

Feller's victories outnumber his defeats exactly 2 to 1, which is a pretty fair gait for a youngster who didn't reach his 22nd birthday until Nov. 3. For instance, Walter Johnson, in his first five years in the American League, was able to win only half his games, winning 40 and losing 40.

Struck Out 973

In five seasons Feller has struck out 973, sixty-three more than Johnson did over a like period. Bullet Bob has led the American League in strikeouts for the past three years, notching 261 last season. He was easily the dominant pitcher last season, leading his league in seven statistical departments, including most games won, earned runs, strikeouts, most innings pitched, most complete games, most games and most batters faced. He shared one of the

other two titles most shutouts, with two others, and failed only to win the percentage crown, finishing third to Schoolboy Rowe and Buck Newsom.

The only black mark on Feller's 1940 record was the fact that he didn't improve one whit all year. He pitched a no-hit, no-run game in the opener against the White Sox, and never was able to get that good again. However, he pitched a one-hitter, a two-hitter, three three-hitters and two four-hitters.

And with it all Feller conducted himself with unassuming dignity even through the period of the rebellion against Oscar Vitt, in which he was a minor figure. Baseball has no greater figure than the blue-eyed, smooth-skinned boy from Van Meter, Iowa.

Previous Winners

Previous winners of the New York Baseball Writers' "player of the year" award follow.

1931—Bill Terry.
1932—Lou Gehrig.
1933—Herb Pennock.
1934—Carl Hubbel.
1935—Dizzy Dean.
1936—Hank Greenberg.
1937—Tony Lazzeri.
1938—Joe DiMaggio.
1939—Jimmy Foxx.
1940—Bucky Walters.

SCHMELING REFUSED LEAVE

Max Schmeling, former heavyweight champion of the world, was recently denied a furlough by the Nazi army so that he might accept a challenge by Heinz Lazek, of Vienna, for the heavyweight title of Europe.

The army announced that Schmeling's "parachute training has reached a stage that demands extreme exertion and most intense concentration." This was interpreted in sports circles as meaning that extensive operations by Nazi parachute troops are in the offing.

Schmeling's wife said "Max will fight soon but not in the boxing ring."

STABLES MOVED TO WILTSHIRE

RACING CIRCLES AT HOME are humming with reports of a surprise move by one of its most distinguished owners, Lord Glanely.

He is said to be sending a number of his best young horses to Wiltshire to be trained by Joe Lawson.

JOCKEY CLUB DECIDES TO HOLD MEETINGS

The Jockey Club, at its meeting last month, decided to run most of the principal races during the first half of the present season, thus, the rumours that there would be no racing in England this year, are not correct. Among the principal races are The Grand National at Liverpool and the Derby at Epsom. — Fleet News.



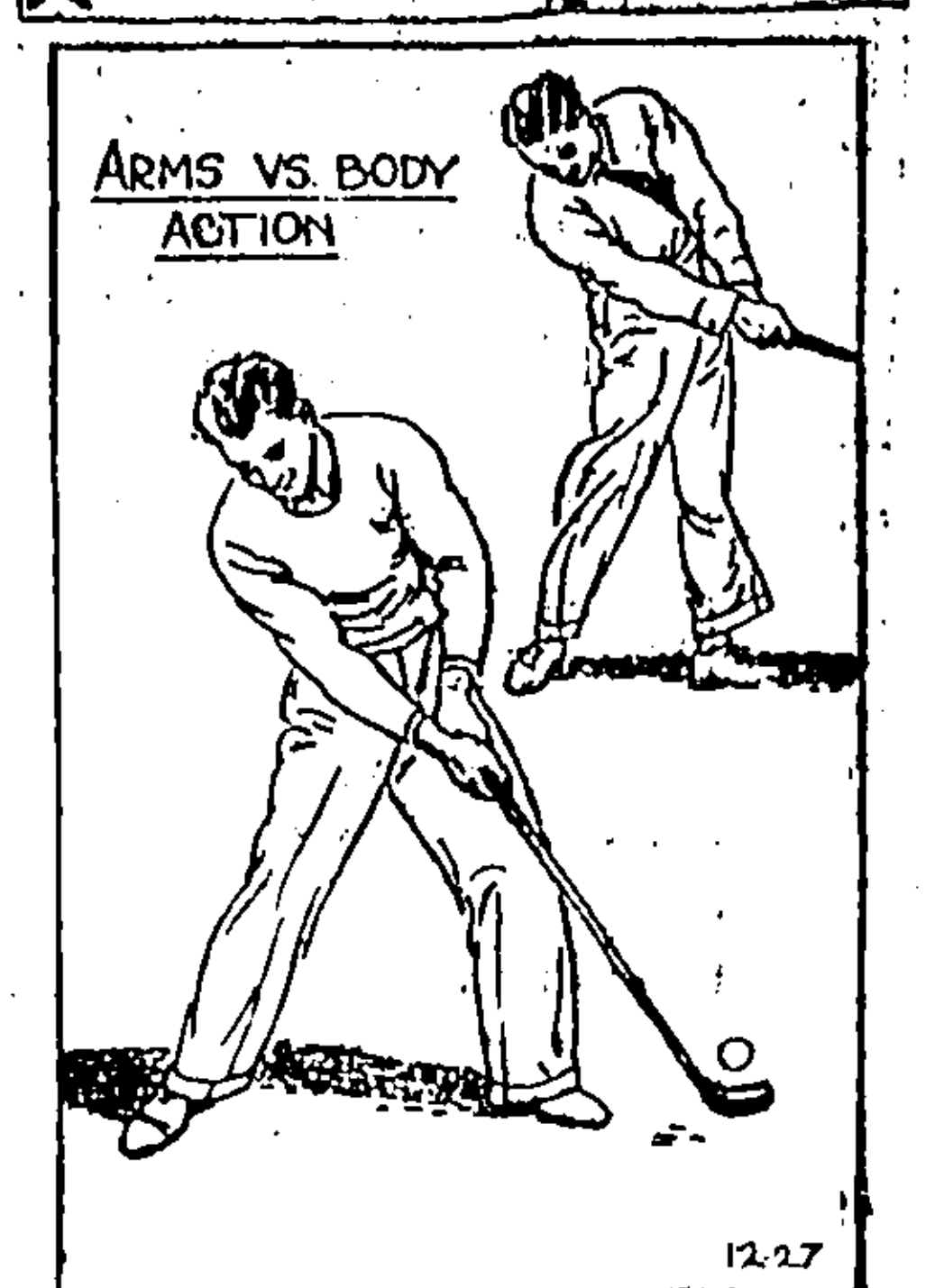
GUNNERS' RUGBY TEAM

In their rugby match against Royal Scots at 3 p.m. to-day at Sookunpoo, Royal Artillery will be represented by:

2/Lieut. Fairclough; Sergt. March, Capt. Skipwith, Gnr. Keeble, L/Bdr. Richards; Capt. Hook, Gnr. Dobbinson; 2/Lieut. Bompas, Sergt. Hicks, Gnr. Cook; L/Bdr. Evans, 2/Lieut. Delderfield; L/Bdr. MacDermott, 2/Lieut. Eddison, 2/Lieut. Heath.

Reserves:—Gnr. Turner, Gnr. Easterbrook, 2/Lieut. Claque.

GRAPHIC GOLF



ARM VS. ARM AND BODY ACTION

By BEST BALL

From the above illustrations it is not difficult to view the power and precision which comes from employing body motion as compared to the use of arm and hand action only. The lower player, with his feet so wide apart as to prevent body turn or any weight transference, is solely dependent for his clubhead velocity on the momentum his arms and wrists can generate. Furthermore the swing is such that the arc of the clubhead comes down abruptly and rises abruptly, making it necessary that the ball be hit at the lowest point for the shot to be successful.

Jimmy Thomson, upper figure, on the other hand uses the full power of his body, in addition to hand and arm action. This body turn allows a rather flat arc, the clubhead travelling close to the ground and able to contact the ball at any point with considerable success. Because of the combined body and arm action, the clubhead is travelling with great momentum when it contacts the ball.

Next Article:—Gaining Good Wrist Action.

BIG CHESS UPSET

(BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT)

The first major upset in the current Colony Open Chess Championship occurred last night when L. Karpovich, making his first appearance in the Tournament, defeated C. M. Sequeira, Colony champion on six occasions.

Sequeira, having the black pieces, played the Nimzowich defence to white's queen's pawn opening. A weak move shortly before the adjournment, last Thursday night placed him at a positional disadvantage, and Karpovich made the most of the situation to secure a pawn.

A forced exchange lost Sequeira a second pawn and eventually, a third. Playing brilliantly in an end game of four pawns against seven, each player also having a rook, Sequeira managed to reduce the pawn margin to one but could not stop a passed pawn.

The game, played in two sessions, lasted 6½ hours. Karpovich now leads in the tournament after two rounds, being the only player to win both his games. E. Zimmern has 1½ points, Sequeira and Coxhead one each, D. E. Carvalho ½ and K. Weiss 0.

CIVIL SERVICE TEAMS

The following will represent the Civil Service C.C. at League cricket on Saturday:

1st XI v Indian R.C. (Home):—J. E. Richardson (Capt.), K. J. Attwell, F. Baker, W. H. Colledge, T. V. N. Fortescue, B. C. K. Hawkins, R. H. Griffiths, D. McLellan, A. E. Perry, N. Whitley and A. M. J. Wright.
2nd XI v Kowloon C.C. (Away):—H. E. Strange (Capt.), G. Almslie, J. Barrow, H. F. Harper, F. E. Lawrence, J. Mitchell, J. F. MacGowan, T. Lockhart, N. L. Smith, G. Stone, A. Watson.
Reserve:—G. Davidson.

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COLONEL EAZY Mixture	\$1.30	\$2.56
Dr. PLUMB Mixture	—	\$2.65

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'VARSITY "B" AGAIN BEAT CHINESE "Y"

Chinese Y.M.C.A. lost to University "B" 3-8 in the "A" Division of the Badminton League at Bridges Street last night.

C. Au and H. Koh (Chinese "Y") beat M. P. Yoong and Y. P. Yoong . . . 21-8

lost to C. K. Lee and S. L. Yong . . . 12-21

lost to K. B. Low and S. Amplavanar . . . 14-21

F. Koh and C. Y. Yung (Chinese "Y") lost to Yoong and Yoong . . . 9-21

lost to Lee and Yong . . . 21-24

beat Low and Amplavanar . . . 23-21

T. C. Lau and F. H. Wong (Chinese "Y") lost to Yoong and Yoong . . . 15-21

lost to Lee and Yong . . . 11-21

beat Low and Amplavanar . . . 21-12

RELATIONS WITH RUMANIA BROKEN OFF

Black-Out Restrictions In Bucharest Tightened

DARLAN APPOINTED PETAIN'S SUCCESSOR

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Reports from Vichy state that Marshal Henri Petain has appointed Admiral Darlan as his successor in case of his disability to continue his duties as head of the Vichy Government. — International News Service.

Note Handed To Antonescu On Situation

IT WAS OFFICIALLY announced in Bucharest yesterday evening that the British Minister in Rumania, Sir Reginald Hoare, had presented the Rumanian Government at mid-day a Note demanding his passports.

Sir Reginald hopes to leave with his full staff of fifty in the first available boat on or after February 15.

It is also confirmed in London that the British Government has decided to withdraw the British Minister in Bucharest.

Official circles in London point out that German troops began to arrive in Rumania some months ago.

At this time, the head of the Rumanian Government informed the British Minister that these troops had come to Rumania in order to instruct the Rumanian Army in the modern methods of warfare.

This instruction had no doubt been imparted, but subsequent developments showed that the German High Command was building up in Rumania all the elements of an Expeditionary Force and had concentrated at various strategical points large quantities of munitions and oil fuel.

Netherlands and Norway was also unanimously approved, with a number of other diplomatic changes. — Reuter.

As Military Base

Rumanian territory is thus being used by Germany as a military base in the furtherance of her plan for the prosecution of the war.

These steps are being taken without any word of dissent from the Rumanian Government.

In these circumstances, the position of the British Legation has become impossible and Sir Reginald Hoare has been instructed to withdraw his mission and Consular officers under his control. This withdrawal will take place within the next few days. — Reuter

No Action In London

By Rumania Yet

The Rumanian Legation in London has hitherto received no instructions from Bucharest about withdrawing from London.

Reuter's diplomatic correspondent learns that the decision whether the Legation is to withdraw naturally lies with the Rumanian Government and if General Antonescu, the Rumanian Premier, instructs the Rumanian Charge d'Affaires to ask for his passports there will be no difficulty about the departure of the Rumanian Mission. — Reuter.

Stricter Black-Out

Stricter black-out precautions are to be observed in Bucharest, state reports reaching London.

All electric signs, brightly lit shop windows, and lights showing in houses, are strictly forbidden.

Citizens are advised to get a supply of torches and candles in case of an emergency.

The Rumanian Air Force, according to an American correspondent in Ankara, is now 100 per cent. under Nazi control.

Information received in London states that German soldiers stationed in Rumania are being issued with civilian clothes and sent to Bulgaria as tourists.

STABILISATION FUND EXTENSION

Mr. Morgenthau stated yesterday that he is preparing to ask Congress for a four years' extension of the \$2,000,000,000 stabilisation fund, according to the Washington correspondent of the Dow Jones Agency. — Reuter.

SHIPPING WARNING

Vessels navigating or lying at anchor in the examination area at the Western entrance to Sourabaya, are warned to keep a sharp lookout for floating mines. Should mines be sighted, a report is to be made to the pilot of the examination vessel.

SNATCHING CASE

Miss Lui Chung-kam, of No. 43, Felix Villas, has reported the theft of a handbag and contents, valued at \$64.30, while in Morrison Hill Road yesterday afternoon.

WEATHER FORECAST: — N.E. winds, fresh to moderate, cloudy generally.

STOP PRESS

Nothing is known in London regarding rumours in New York of possible mediation by General Franco between Britain and Italy, following the news that General Franco has arrived in Italy. — Reuter.



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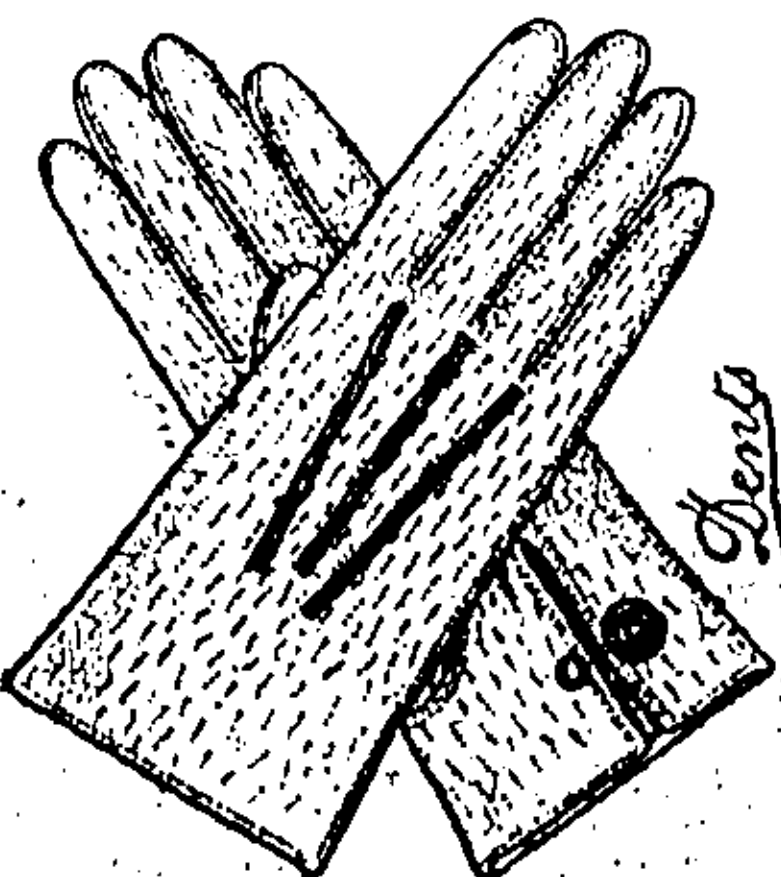
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